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Soviet Underground Nuclear Test Conducted 14 Jun
LD1406042588 Moscow TASS in English 0421 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—An underground nuclear explosion with a capacity under 20 kilotons was staged today at 6.30, Moscow time, in the Soviet Union at a test site near Semipalatinsk. The test was conducted for the purpose of upgrading military technology.

Karpov Views U.S. Stance on Strategic Arms
LD1306193688 Moscow TASS in English 1919 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—If Washington adopted a corresponding political decision, then the problems which now hold back the elaboration of the treaty for a 50 per cent cut in strategic nuclear arms would be settled. But the United States is not yet prepared to take such a decision. This is the opinion of Viktor Karpov, chief of a department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, who heads the Soviet delegation at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space weapons. In New York, where the General Assembly is holding its third special session on disarmament, Karpov gave an interview to the IZVESTIYA correspondent, which is published in the newspaper's today's issue.

"Already after his return from Moscow, President Reagan said he was ready for yet another summit meeting if there were such a possibility," Karpov said. "We are also ready for that, on condition that there is an agreement. The situation in the United States itself is still sort of uncertain. There is no certainty that the administration is now in a position to take a final decision on this or that course of action—to opt for the conclusion of the agreement or not. It appears that the decision will be taken with account for the further development of the electoral campaign struggle."

Viktor Karpov noted the technical complexities involved in the conclusion of a treaty. The first block of problems is linked with the observance of the ABM Treaty. "During the summit meeting in Washington, an agreement in principle was reached to that effect but agreement must be translated into a juridical, contractual form. But this is something we cannot resolve with the Americans despite all efforts, although the Secretary of State George Shultz during his meetings with Eduard Shevardnadze has repeatedly promised that this will be achieved. However, at the level of the delegations in Geneva, the American side is acting in a totally opposite direction," the leader of the Soviet delegation said.

The second block of problems is the air-borne and sea-based cruise missiles. At the present stage, Karpov points out, the United States is not yet prepared for a real limitation of its strategic arsenal. "A political decision is needed. If the White House takes that decision, then the agreement will be possible," the head of the Soviet delegation said.

Nonproliferation Talks Reconvene in Vienna
LD1306125088 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Vienna June 13 TASS—Another round of Soviet-American consultations on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons began here today.

The value of regular consultations of this kind was reaffirmed in the joint Moscow summit statement in which the leaders of the USSR and the United States came out in favour of the need for their continuation.

The current round was special in that it will be held on the eve of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the non-proliferation treaty.

The treaty is one of the major international agreements on arms control, encompassing more than 130 nations.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, in their Moscow meeting, confirmed their conviction that universal backing of the non-proliferation treaty was of great importance for international peace and security.

The Soviet delegation to the consultations is headed by B. Semyonov, deputy chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Atomic Energy, the American delegation is led by Ambassador-at-Large Richard T. Kennedy.

Pact, NATO Meeting Discusses Arms Reduction
LD1306115688 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Vienna June 13 TASS—Representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member countries held a regular meeting here today within the framework of consultations on elaborating a mandate for the future talks on the reduction of the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Gerasimov Holds Foreign Ministry Briefing 13 Jun

Lauds Indian Disarmament Program

LD1306131188 Moscow TASS in English 1402 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—"The three-stage disarmament programme for a period ending in 2010, which was proposed by India, contains concrete measures to move towards a nuclear-free and non-violent world in accordance with the principles proclaimed in the Delhi Declaration," head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry Gennadiy Gerasimov told a new briefing today.

The programme of action to establish a nuclear-free non-violent world, which was set forward by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at the third special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament, Gennadiy Gerasimov told Soviet and foreign journalists, "is a bold large-scale programme aimed at ridding mankind from weapons of mass destruction, curbing the race of conventional arms and considerable reducing them, creating a new, more just and secure structure of international relations." These concrete measures and the proposed interrelation and sequence in which they should be implemented are being currently studied by the Soviet side with the utmost attention.

The first impression is that Rajiv Gandhi's initiative follows the same channel and direction as the Soviet programme of nuclear disarmament till the end of this century, set forth in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement on January 15, 1987, and the concept of creating a comprehensive system of international security, the Soviet spokesman said.

Reviews Arab Summit, Angola

LD1306150588 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—"The decisions worked out at an extraordinary meeting of heads of state and government of Arab countries in Algiers were met with satisfaction in the Soviet Union", chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry Gennadiy Gerasimov said at a briefing today.

It should be noted that this authoritative form proclaimed the determination of Arabs to seek the roads for the settlement of Arab-Israeli conflict in the framework of an international conference, their striving to use the United Nations potential for the purpose. "We also note with satisfaction the fact that the meeting in Algiers has become a step toward rallying the unity of Arab ranks, also toward the further normalisation of Palestinian-Syrian relations".

Gennadiy Gerasimov emphasised tht the USSR declares for such an easing of the conflict situation in the Middle East as would be based on this balance of interests of all the parties involved in the conflict.

Touching upon the developments in southern Africa where an explosive situation persists, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said that there are signs of advance on this problem extending the hope for the achievement of an equitable political settlement. "Realism and far-sightedness shown above all by Angola and Cuba gave an impetus to a new process—the talks between Angola, Cuba and the Republic of South Africa with the United States mediation", he said.

The first round of these talks held in London in May showed that there is an opportunity to bring closer the positions of the sides, to find mutually acceptable solutions to such important problems as an end to South Africa's aggression against Angola, the granting of independence to Namibia. Such solutions would help create the necessary external conditions for the settlement of Angola's internal problems by Angolans themselves, the ensurance of the security of that country and, consequently, working out by the governments of Angola and Cuba of a schedule for the withdrawal of Cuban internationalists.

At the same time the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman noted that the situation regarding that nascent process of talks has complicated now. "One gets the impression that the Republic of South Africa tries to edge away from the platform of settlement which started shaping in London, artificially emphasises the arising technical difficulties so as to delay the second round of negotiations. One should not also close the eyes to the fact that the U.N. Security Council's Resolution 602 which demands that the Republic of South Africa immediately stop acts of aggression from Angola and withdraw all its troops from the Angolan territory remains unfulfilled".

Cites Genscher, Swedish Sub Hunt

LD1306163388 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—"We note with satisfaction the coincidence or closeness of the elements in the approaches of the USSR and the FRG to a number of topical problems of disarmament", Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, said at the briefing today. In the Soviet Union, he said, "we took note of the speech by the FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the international conference, held recently in Potsdam (GDR) to discuss "the new ways to the security of East and West", including, among others, his words to the effect that the ideas laid down in the Soviet plan for a three-stage reduction in armed forces and armaments in Central Europe can well be made the basis for future talks."

Commenting at the request of newsmen the reports in the Swedish press about Soviet submarines appearing in the territorial waters of Sweden, Gennadiy Garasimov said: "There are no Soviet submarines in the territorial waters of Sweden". Searching for these submarines in Sweden, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman went on to say, reminds one of the search for the mythical monster in the Scottish lake of Loch Ness. "It is already many years that they are looking for it and fail to find it. It looks as if the Loch Ness monster has now moved to the shores of Sweden".

Shultz Address to UN Arms Session Criticized

LD1406082888 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] New York June 14 TASS—By TASS special correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev and Vitaliy Chukseyev:

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Monday addressed the United Nations third special session of the General Assembly, devoted to disarmament, setting forth the U.S. stand on this issue.

He paid special attention to American-Soviet relations in the field, and to the approach to the problem in the context of joint actions by the United States and its NATO allies and from the viewpoint of global tasks.

"Two weeks ago in Moscow, President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev exchanged the instruments of ratification for the first treaty in history to reduce nuclear weapons," Shultz said. "That treaty is a message of hope for the future."

The secretary of state said "progress in U.S.-Soviet arms control has been substantial".

"Over the next three years, the United States and the Soviet Union will eliminate, forever and on a global basis, all their intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

"For the next 13 years, we and the Soviets will verify this disarmament by means of the most extensive on-site inspection regimes ever.

"It may be that future historians will come to judge this treaty's breakthroughs in verification and openness to have been almost as important as the nuclear reductions themselves," Shultz said.

"We have made major progress towards a treaty to cut U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear arsenals by 50 per cent," he went on.

"I do not know whether we will be able to conclude such a treaty this year, but we will make our best effort. It is the United States' top arms control priority," he said.

"We and the Soviet Union have agreed to prusue stage-by-stage negotiations on nuclear testing. The first step is to agree on effective verification, to make it possible to ratify the Threshold Test Ban Treaty of 1974 and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty of 1976.

"At the Moscow summit, we agreed on the detailed procedures necessary to design and conduct a joint verification experiment at each other's test sites. And we have made progress on a new protocol to the peaceful nuclear explosions treaty," Shultz said.

"Earlier this year, we opened the nuclear risk reduction centres, in Moscow and Washington. They will further decrease the chance of war through accident or miscalculation, and will play a direct role in implementing the INF Treaty.

"At the Moscow summit, we also agreed to provide twenty-four hours advance notice of strategic ballistic missile launchers," the U.S. secretary of state continued.

He ascribed these achievements to President Reagan's policy which he pursued with the support of U.S. NATO allies.

Speaking of the disarmament issue on a global scale, Shultz pointed out that "building a safer world is not a U.S.-Soviet problem alone, or even an East-West problem. It is every nation's responsibility".

In this connection, he emphasised the need to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ban chemical weapons.

The secretary of state said that "negotiations at the conference on disarmament toward a comprehensive, verifiable, and truly global ban (on chemical weapons) have increasingly centred on the real issues".

"Formidable obstacles remain," he said. "It serves no good purpose to minimize them. But the United States is fully committed to pressing ahead".

Shultz paid attention to the problem of conventional armaments, specifically to a dramatic rise in arms deliveries to developing countries, which he said had grown in 1982-1986 by 40 per cent as compared with the previous five years.

However, in defiance of well-known facts, in particular that the United States is the world's biggest arms trader, Shultz tried to make the other side responsible for it.

The U.S. secretary of state also gave a lopsided assessment to the military balance in Europe and the task of reducing conventional armaments and armed forces there, which boiled down in his speech mainly to making demands of the other side.

Shultz's speech contained no proposals on specific steps which the United States could make independently or propose to the international community for being implemented through collective efforts.

In other words, the United States offered no disarmament programme to the special session.

North Korean Envoy Addresses UN Session

LD1006155288 Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] New York June 10 TASS—Pak Kil-yon, permanent observer of People's Korea to the U.N., called attention of delegates to the 3rd special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament to the need for establishing and expanding nuclear-free zones, which is one of the most effective ways of campaigning for elimination of nuclear armaments. Speaking at the session on Thursday in this context, he called on the USA to agree to the idea of a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula and to withdraw from Korea's south all its nuclear weapons and troops. This would be a manifestation of the USA's real readiness for nuclear disarmament, he noted.

Further Reportage on Shevardnadze UN Activities

More on Shamir Talks

PM1406091188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jun 88 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "USSR Foreign Minister's Meetings in New York"]

[Text] New York, 10 Jun—E.A. Shevardnadze has met with Israeli Prime Minister Y. Shamir at the latter's request.

The Israeli prime minister was told that the USSR is seriously concerned at the dangerous development of the situation in the Near East, whose continuation is fraught with pernicious consequences for all the peoples and states of that region and jeopardizes international peace and security.

E.A. Shevardnadze pointed out with the utmost directness that the obstructionist stance of certain Israeli circles is the chief obstacle to the start of practical work on resolving the Near East conflict. He emphasized that a real settlement can be achieved in this region only on the basis of consistent observance of the principle of a balance of the interests of all the sides—both Arabs and Israel. The lands seized from the Arabs must be returned to them, the Palestinians must be ensured the right to self-determination, and Israel, like all the states of the region, must be ensured the guaranteed right to peace and security.

The firm understanding has taken shape in the world community, E.A. Shevardnadze pointed out, that the convening of an international conference with the participation of all the interested sides, including Israel and the PLO, as well as the permanent member states of the UN Security Council, is the only reliable and realistic way to achieve an all-embracing Near East settlement. He urged the Israeli Government to adopt a policy of a political settlement with the Arabs and to agree to participate in an international conference.

As for the question of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel, which Y. Shamir touched on, the Soviet side pointed out that the Soviet Union will be prepared to tackle its resolution when an effective and efficient international conference begins its work.

Comparison of UN Letter

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 11 June carries E.A. Shevardnadze's letter to the UN general secretary in its Second Edition on page 4. The PRAVDA report, entitled "Letter From the USSR Foreign Minister to the UN Secretary General on the Question of Ensuring Confidence and Extending Openness and Glasnost in the Military Sphere", has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 10 June Soviet Union Daily Report under the subheading "Letter on Military Glasnost", pages 5-6, revealing the following variations:

Page 5

Column one, third paragraph, line thirteen, the PRAVDA report reads: "...a step-up in talks for curtailing the arms race." (subbing "curtailing" for "reversing")

Page 6

Column one, second paragraph, line one, the PRAVDA report reads: "The Soviet Union supports the U.N. General Assembly's call for the widest possible spread of objective information about the arms race and disarmament." (adding "objective")

Column one, fifth paragraph, line four, the PRAVDA report reads: "...to continue estimating its needs in the sphere of ensuring security and the level of military expenditures with account taken of the need..." (adding passage)

Column one, seventh paragraph, line five, the PRAVDA report reads: "...using the system of standardized accounting existing in the United Nations..." (omitting "system")

United States & Canada

U.S. Officials Criticized on Post-Summit Remarks

LD1106023688 Moscow TASS in English 2047 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 10 TASS—TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

At the latest Soviet-American summit, the leaders of the USSR and the United States took a fresh step in a complicated dialogue, but one that is necessary for their countries and the whole world, in the effort to achieve equitable verifiable agreements consolidating international stability and security. The arrangements reached gave a favourable impetus to the third special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament that discusses questions of the further deepening of the process of actual disarmament, of the construction of universal security which started with the ratification of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles.

It would seem that once the tasks of the participants in the Soviet-American dialogue are clearly defined, it is their duty now to have a responsible approach to the implementation of these tasks. But the members of the U.S. "team" have left Moscow, and the world public have heard the voices of its "players" that are discordant to the results of the Moscow meeting. U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci who arrived in Tokyo gave due to the Moscow meeting and said that the United States and the Soviet Union should continue looking for the ways to ease, wherever possible, the tension that divides them. But going by his explanation he intends to look for these ways not at all in the easing of tension but in the prospectless continuation of the confrontation, in banking on the strengthening of military cooperation with the United States allies in the Asia-Pacific region, on the further build up of their military potential and in denying the countries of the region the right to have normal commercial and economic ties with socialist countries.

In order to justify his calls that run counter to the spirit of Moscow, Carlucci resorted to cliches about the "build up of the Soviet menace" in the region and was saying that the Pentagon so far does not see any restructuring in the Soviet military policy, that Soviet military structure has an offensive nature, and so on and so forth.

One gets the impression that they in the Pentagon have not heard Mikhail Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech, are unaware of the Soviet leader's answers to the questions of the Indonesian newspaper "MERDEKA", the answers in which he set out a detailed programme of the consolidation of peace, security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and made an invitation for a joint quest for the solution to this problem by balancing interests and for the sake of universal prosperity. A barrier to the spread and build up of nuclear weapons, restriction of naval activity and military presence in the basins of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, radical reduction of armed forces and armaments, settlement of regional conflicts, confidence-building measures—these are just some of the points of this programme. At the current session of the United Nations General Assembly, it was supplemented with a number of new concrete proposals that were submitted for the discussion of the world community by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

There is already an interested conversation and exchange of constructive ideas with a number of countries of the region on this programme. The programme goes along with such important ideas and steps of those countries as creation of peace and nuclear weapon free zones in the region. But they in the Pentagon look at all this from an old militaristic viewpoint and think of one thing only—the ensurance of the United States military superiority in the region. Isn't this why any initiatives of the USSR and other socialist countries with regard to the area are immediately proclaimed to be "propaganda"? U.S. chief negotiator at Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space arms in Geneva Max Kampelman in an interview to USIA "Worldnet" said that Soviet proposals on problems of security in the Asia-Pacific region are allegedly of advantage only to the Soviet Union and have a lopsided nature. He admitted that the United States views them as propaganda.

Such pronouncements cannot be described in any other way but as a relapse to old thinking. Those who have such views clearly do not keep abreast of the present which requires new approaches.

Prozhogin Reviews Summit, East-West Relations

PM1306152388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jun 88 Second Edition p 4

[Nikolay Prozhogin International Review: "The World This Week"]

[Excerpt] Influential Force [subhead]

The fact that restructuring in the USSR is a positive influential force on the world is acknowledged abroad by politicians, commentators, and the public. The Soviet-U.S. meeting in Moscow showed once again that restructuring is finding the foreign policy which it needs, as the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th all-union party conference notes, and which would adequately express its humanistic essence.

When in Moscow, U.S. President Reagan publicly repudiated his former opinion of the USSR as the "evil empire." Let us also recall the emphatically friendly tone of some of his statements, particularly his farewell speech in the Great Kremlin Palace's St George's Hall. It is true that, when speaking about us in a new way now, he himself added the proviso that it was not he who had changed but the Soviet Union. Of course, we are not going to deny the changes taking place in our country. Nevertheless, the President's past comments about us were founded on his conviction that the Soviet Union is totally incapable of any change. Consequently, if you judge his statements in Moscow, he has indeed changed in some way.

Soviet people perceived the new tone of R. Reagan's statements with satisfaction. In the West, where public opinion has been conditioned for so long in a spirit of rabid anti-Sovietism, his statements were almost a sensation. If even R. Reagan, whose anticommunist convictions are well known, is changing his views on the Soviet Union, this is significant, ran the argument not only of those who still refused to believe in the well-founded nature of our restructuring, but also of those for whom the problems discussed during the Moscow summit were too complex and who discussed its form more than its content.

Without belittling the importance of the comments by the leader of such a great power as the United States, let us nevertheless wait before we assess their significance in terms of real changes in U.S. politics. While taking notice of the U.S. President's words, we should like to see concrete deeds to match them. However, the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Moscow, which overall had an undoubtedly positive outcome, could have produced more. Our side has spoken openly and frankly about the missed opportunities there.

Furthermore, barely more than a few days after the eminent U.S. delegation's departure from the Soviet Union, some of its members began making statements which sounded at odds with the President's statements both during and after his visit. The lead was taken by Defense Secretary Carlucci at a press conference in Tokyo, where he launched into a discourse on the "Soviet military threat" just like in the old but not so good days.

The change of tone was so striking that it bewildered representatives of the Western press. During an interview given the next day on the USIA's Worldnet system by C. Powell, the President's national security adviser, he was asked how the "conciliatory comments about the Russians" made immediately after the Moscow summit tallied with Carlucci's statement that the "military threats from the Soviets have not diminished at all." (The quotemarks belong to P. Struekter from the West Berlin radio station RIAS, but recurred with slight variations in other journalists' questions).

In his replies, Powell not only repeated Carlucci's statement, but also said that the U.S. Secretary of State and the President himself hold the same opinion.

You get the impression that certain circles in Washington were somewhat frightened by the positive response which the Moscow meeting evoked throughout the world and wanted to stifle the hopes which it had created of the rapid achievement of new agreements in the nuclear arms reduction sphere. As before, Washington is trying to "reverse" or at least to slow down further progress toward the solution of the urgent problems of international life and primarily those connected with the cause of disarmament.

It cannot be ruled out that statements like those of Carlucci and Powell were directly aimed at the NATO countries' foreign ministers attending a North Atlantic bloc council session in Madrid 9-10 June. Incidentally, the day before it began, Lord Carrington, NATO's secretary general, who is leaving that post at the end of the month, again spoke about the "strategy of nuclear deterrence" as the basis of the bloc's military doctrine.

Nevertheless, the situation in the world is changing for the better, although not as quickly as it ought to. The Soviet-U.S. summits, each of which was a landmark on the path of introducing the new political thinking into the practice of international relations, have played the important role of giving impetus to those changes.

For example, even at the Geneva summit, the first of the four Soviet-U.S. summits in the past 3 years, it was recognized that nuclear war cannot be won and that it must not be started. Even the second and most dramatic meeting, the one in Reykjavik, produced a positive result by showing that it is perfectly possible to renounce nuclear weapons. The third meeting, held in Washington at the end of last year, saw the signing of the Treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which orders the elimination of two classes of nuclear missiles. Finally, the fourth and most recent Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow was marked among other things by the exchanging of the documents ratifying the treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, which gave it the force of law, and progress in preparing a treaty on strategic offensive armaments.

Under these conditions it is increasingly difficult for the supporters of the retention of nuclear weapons to defend their position. As for the Soviet Union, it will continue to firmly and consistently pursue the line of disarmament and the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. This is clearly stated in the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th all-union party conference, which will be of the greatest significance not only for our country's domestic life but also for the prospects for the development of international relations. [passage omitted]

Dobrynin Receives Heads of U.S. Institutions

*PM1406085588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
12 Jun 88 Second Edition p 4*

[TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has received J. Brademas, president of the University of New York, and J. Billington, director of the Library of Congress, the largest library in America, at their request.

They discussed questions of broadening exchanges between universities and library services in the USSR and the United States in light of the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow.

Reagan 'Disappointed' With Nicaraguan Stand

LD1206238888 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Washington June 11 TASS—The White House indicated that President Reagan was "disappointed" that representatives of the Sandinist government had rejected new contra demands. Attempts were made in the written statement, made on Friday on behalf of Marlin Fitzwater, assistant to the President for press relations, to put the blame for the inconclusive latest round of talks on ceasefire in the country on the Nicaraguan Government.

However, an influential research organisation, the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, stresses that in reality the talks were sabotaged by the contra delegation which at the last moment produced a new series of demands, fully aware that they would be rejected.

Specialists of this organisation believe that the position of the U.S. Administration, which was always hostile to those talks, played an important role in bringing about such turn of events. The breakdown of the talks, the council said in a statement, is part of the plan which was privately disclosed by Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, during his meeting with journalists several weeks ago. Under the plan, the Council on Hemispheric Affairs point out, the administration urged contras not to sign peace agreements with Sandinists, but to continue a de facto truce, hoping that an incident would occur allowing the White House to press for the resumption of military aid to contras.

The newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST quotes a State Department official as saying that "the administration officials will meet next week with contra leaders to determine their next step." But right-wing circles in the USA and contras themselves already launched a vigorous campaign lobbying for the resumption of arms and ammunition supplies, which were stopped by the contras' "political directorate." Adolfo Calero told a press conference in Washington that the contras must receive military aid. Conservative Republican Jack Kemp urged the White House to request not less than 105 million dollars in military aid to counterrevolutionaries. A group of congressmen, advocating the military solution of the Central American conflict, will meet next week with the President to urge the White House "to support a new aid package", according to Republican Mickey Edwards.

The White House official spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, said on Friday that the administration had not taken a decision yet on whether to request aid to the Nicaraguan contras from the Congress.

Gorbachev Congratulates Canadian CP Leaders

LD0806070688 Moscow TASS in English 0657 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 8 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has sent a congratulatory telegram to George Hewison and William Kashtan on the occasion of their election to the posts of general secretary and chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada. Mikhail Gorbachev wished the Canadian Communists successful and fruitful work for the sake of the establishment of the ideals of peace, democracy and socialism, in the interests of the development of friendly relations between the two nations.

China

Soviet Deputy Minister on Prospects for Trade

*OW1306115688 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia
1200 GMT 12 Jun 88*

[Text] Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations [as heard] Osadchuk pointed out that cooperation with China is in a soaring state with good prospects, and that the trade volume between the two countries is expected to rise by 30 percent this year. The Soviet Union, he added, is actively assisting China in building or renovating over two dozen big projects in the areas of power, metallurgical, coal-mining, and other industrial fields.

Tian Jiyun Views Current Trade Relations

*LD1306223588 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1430 GMT 13 Jun 88*

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The third session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission on Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technical Cooperation has ended in Beijing. In an interview for our correspondent, Tian Jiyun, vice premier of the PRC State Council, said:

[Tian Jiyun] In 1988, the volume of trade turnover between the two countries will reach $3 billion, which is roughly 30 percent more than in 1987.

Cooperation between China and the USSR is developing fruitfully in the spheres of science and technology, education and transport, and border trade. The third session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission passed successfully. The sides conducted the talks in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding and in a businesslike [delovoy] and constructive atmosphere. We, like our Soviet comrades, are satisfied with the accords reached.

An agreement on establishing and developing trade and economic contacts between the provinces, autonomous regions, and cities of the PRC and the USSR union republics, ministries, departments, and enterprises, and an agreement on the principles for setting up the operation of joint ventures were signed.

We are convinced that cooperation between the PRC and the USSR in economics, trade, science and technology, and other areas will become even more dynamic, and that new potential and opportunities for cooperation between the countries will be revealed. We are ready to apply our efforts toward this.

Special Envoy Tian Zengpei in Moscow for Talks

Departs Beijing

LD1306120888 Moscow TASS in English 1059 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Beijing June 13 TASS—Special envoy of the PRC Government, Deputy Foreign Minister Tian Zengpei left Beijing for Moscow today to take part in the 12th round of the Soviet-Chinese political consultations. He said before departure that the sides will continue to discuss removing the obstacles in the way of normalising the relations between the two countries.

The special envoy of the Chinese Government was seen off at the airport by the Soviet Ambassador in the PRC Oleg Troyanovskiy.

Arrives in Moscow

LD1306121088 Moscow TASS in English 1116 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—Special representative of the Chinese Government Tian Zengpei, who is deputy foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, arrived in Moscow today to continue Soviet-Chinese political consultations.

He is being accompanied by a group of advisers and experts.

The Chinese visitor was welcomed at the airport by special representative of the Soviet Government, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Igor Rogachev, and other officials.

The scheduled round of Soviet-Chinese political consultations will begin on June 14.

'Obstacles' To Be Discussed

OW1306235188 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Special envoy of the Chinese Government Tian Zengpei, who is vice foreign minister of the PRC, arrived in Moscow on 13 June for the 12th round of Soviet-Chinese political consultations.

Speaking to reporters in Beijing prior to his departure, Tian Zengpei said that the Soviet Union and China will discuss the question of how to remove obstacles on the road to normalization of relations between the two countries. He hoped that progress would be made on the Cambodian issue, which he said is the biggest obstacle to this normalization.

A delegation headed by Nie Dajiang, vice minister of radio, film, and television, also arrived in Moscow from Beijing on the same day.

Joint Cooperation, Possible Summit Assessed

Nikolayev Commentary

OW1306162388 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Nikolayev commentary from the "Current Events and Commentaries" program]

[Text] In the program of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference of the party's Central Committee, which has been widely discussed in the Soviet Union, the improvement in the country's relations with many countries, including neighboring ones and those very far away, is praised as part of the results of its diplomatic efforts since the launching of reform. Nikolayev, a station commentator, writes as follows:

Soviet-Chinese relations are a typical example. At a recent meeting with Li Peng, Chinese premier of the State Council, Maslyukov, chairman of the USSR State Planning Commission, reiterated the Soviet leaders' principle and policy of promoting cooperation in various fields with China. We indeed believe that full improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations will contribute to the peace and stability of Asia and the whole world. The Soviet Union and China share a common attitude in dealing with some major international problems. Of course, they also have some differences. However, we don't think that these differences cannot be ironed out. Our attitude is to continuously seek practical ways to eliminate them.

Here I wish to cite some concrete measures the Soviet Union has taken to improve mutual understanding between the two countries in the political field. For example, the Soviet Union has considerably reduced its troops on the Soviet-Chinese border, and has also reduced its troops in Mongolia. According to the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty, the Soviet Union will dismantle its nuclear missiles deployed in the Asian part of the country. The Soviet Union has also begun to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, beginning 15 May. This, of course, will help to improve the situation in Asia.

Improvements have also been made in dealing with the Cambodian question. The Soviet Union fully supports the Cambodian Government's policy of national reconciliation and the Cambodian-Vietnamese agreement on withdrawing Vietnamese troops from Cambodia by the end of 1990. What should be pointed out is that the Soviet Union has no intention of applying pressure on Vietnam on any issue. This also applies to the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia. As a sovereign nation, Vietnam decides on its own foreign policy and handles relations with Third World countries at its own discretion.

Before I end this commentary, I would like to talk about another issue—that is, the possibility of a summit meeting between the Soviet Union and China. The Soviet Union's stand on this issue is very clear. At a news briefing in Moscow a few days ago, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman reiterated the Soviet stand on this issue. The Soviet Union has always endorsed such a meeting. We have never set any preconditions. The spokesman also mentioned Soviet leader Gorbachev's readiness to hold such a meeting at any time, in any place.

Shevadiyanov Commentary

OW1306165388 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Asia-Pacific Region 1300 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Yevgeniy Shevadiyanov commentary]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the United States held another summit in Moscow from the end of May to the beginning of June. It was no surprise that it drew great attention from throughout the world. To be sure, the two nations shoulder primary responsibility for world security in our time. However, ours is a world of interrelationship and interdependence. As prestigious as the two nations are, they cannot guarantee that they can solve all complex problems of the present era. It takes the concerted efforts of all countries, big and small, in the world to do so. In this connection, a Soviet-Chinese summit may prove to be of great significance. Our station commentator, Yevgeniy Shevadiyanov, writes as follows in this connection:

Soviet and Chinese leaders have many times voiced their readiness to hold a high-level Soviet-Chinese meeting. Yet China has repeatedly said that, before such a summit takes place, the so-called three obstacles must first be removed—that is, the Soviet Union must reduce its troops along the Soviet-Chinese border, withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, and urge Vietnam to pull out its troops from Cambodia. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, has not laid down any precondition for a Soviet-Chinese summit.

Soviet leader Gorbachev has proposed many times to hold high-level talks with the Chinese leaders, either in Moscow, Beijing, or any other appropriate place, to seriously and earnestly discuss the building of good-neighborly relations between the two countries. The Soviet Union holds that a Soviet-Chinese summit serves precisely the purpose of settling complex problems in Soviet-Chinese relations as well as removing any existing obstacles.

What is the basis of such a stance? First of all, it has its root in the new political thinking, and in the concrete experience the Soviet Union has accumulated of late in international relations. There are more problems in Soviet-U.S. relations than in Soviet-Chinese relations. Nevertheless, the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States have conducted four summits over the past 3 years. It was at these summits that the two sides signed the INF Treaty, made progress on the issue of slashing strategic offensive arms by half, agreed to serve as guarantors for settling the Afghan issue, narrowed their differences over other regional conflicts, and, most importantly, established and consolidated a political dialogue between the two countries.

The Soviet Union sincerely hopes to completely normalize its relations with China and to further develop bilateral cooperation. The Soviet Union has consistently taken a realistic approach toward China's stand. In the past as well as at present, the Soviet Union has consistently kept in mind the three obstacles China has put forward. For example, to make a concession to other Asian countries including China, the Soviet Union has agreed to eliminate all intermediate- and shorter-range missiles deployed on its Asian territory. The Soviet Union has not set any precondition for the elimination of these missiles although China also possesses about 150 such missiles.

In addition, the Soviet Union has unilaterally reduced its troops stationed along the Soviet-Chinese border as well as in Mongolia, and has proposed to hold talks with China on reducing troops along the entire borderline and working out confidence-building measures. It should be pointed out that the situation there has long stabilized, and the two nations' frontier troops have already begun friendly contacts. The two sides have begun delivery of goods through the border and residents there have begun to exchange visits.

As regards the Afghan issue, the Soviet Union has demonstrated its good intentions on this matter. In compliance with the Geneva accords, the Soviet Union has started to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan since 15 May. The withdrawal will be completed in 9 months.

The last of the three obstacles, which China considers to be the most important one, is the Cambodian issue. As everyone knows, the Soviet Union is not a party to the Cambodian conflict. Not long ago, the SRV decided to withdraw half of its troops from Cambodia within this year and the rest by 1990. The Soviet Union supports this decision by Vietnam. The Soviet Union also welcomes the PRK's efforts to promote national reconciliation and uphold a nonaligned policy. If these efforts win

China's support as well, the Cambodian problem can be solved in a short time in a way which serves the interests of all sides involved, including those of China.

Aside from the above-mentioned considerations, a Soviet-Chinese summit is also necessary for the harmonious development of bilateral relations. In recent years, the Soviet Union and China have expanded their trade and achieved some progress in many areas of scientific and technological cooperation. The two nations also intend to set up joint-venture enterprises in the near future. Undoubtedly, a Soviet-Chinese summit will give a big boost to the improvement of Soviet-Chinese relations, including their political relations. The Soviet Union is convinced that it accords not only with the interests of the Soviet Union and China but with those of other countries around the world as well.

Korolev Commentary

OW1306174388 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Korolev commentary]

[Text] The third meeting of the Soviet-Chinese Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation Committee has ended in Beijing. In this connection, station commentator Korolev writes:

I am fully justified to say that the meeting has been very successful. Currently, both China and the Soviet Union are promoting exchanges in almost all areas. Cooperation in trade has been developing vigorously. Bilateral trade has increased over 500 percent since the the beginning of this decade.

Objective historical need has compelled both sides to strengthen their bilateral relations, because both are socialist countries and both are engaged in large-scale revolutionary reforms. To fulfill their preset goals, both need a peaceful environment, as reflected in their respective foreign policies.

At a recent meeting between the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers in New York during a special UN conference, both pointed out that the Soviet Union and China hold similar views on important disarmament issues, such as the reduction of nuclear and conventional arms and a ban on the militarization of space.

At a meeting with Maslyukov, head of the Soviet delegation to a meeting of the Soviet-Chinese Committee in Beijing, Li Peng, premier of the Chinese State Council, spoke highly of the Moscow summit. However, differences of views still exist on a number of international issues. One of these differences concerns the Cambodian question. Despite the difference, some progress has been made in this regard.

At a news conference in Beijing, Logachev, deputy Soviet foreign minister, emphatically pointed out: The decision of Hanoi and Phnom Penh to withdraw 50,000 Vietnamese volunteers from Cambodia this year has brought about a brand-new situation in solving the Cambodian question. He also said that the statement made by a Chinese spokesman saying that China does not insist on Pol Pot's return to power, is an important statement. Obviously, this statement is conducive to further improving Soviet-Chinese relations, benefits the people of both countries, and helps stabilize the international situation.

A meeting between the leaders of both countries would also serve as an important driving force in improving relations between our two countries. The Soviet side has already been making preparations for such a meeting. The Soviet position on a Soviet-Chinese summit is that no preconditions be set. The Soviet side will not demand any preconditions.

Soviet Scholar Speaks Highly of PRC Reforms

OW1006084788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Professor Burlatskiy, a noted political commentator, social activist, and deputy chairman of the Soviet Association of Political Science, gave a news conference in Moscow a few day ago. He answered questions raised by Soviet and foreign reporters on reforms being carried out in Soviet society, including those about the development of citizens' and political rights.

Burlatskiy said: After repeatedly drawing a lesson from the Stalinist period, we resolutely strive for a reliable guarantee that Stalinism must not be allowed to be restored. We realize that it is necessary to guarantee citizens' rights and political rights in order to develop our country economically and culturally. This is because we need positive citizens, people who can think of problems independently and who have a high cultural standard. Those people can face up to the world and compare their experiences with others. I believe that the democratization of society and consolidation and development of citizens' rights and political rights are interrelated.

It should be pointed out that Prof Burlatskiy is not only a noted activist but a noted writer and political commentator as well. In addition to his works on the Soviet economy and political reform, he has published books and articles on China. He has observed and studied the ongoing reforms in China. He visited China 2 years ago. He brought back a television film of a special economic zone from China and had it shown.

At the news conference, Burlatskiy made a comparison between agricultural reform in the Soviet Union and that in China. He said:

I support some major reforms in China. I think that the most important achievement in agriculture has been made by instituting a household contract system. How much influence have China's experiences in this regard produced on the Soviet Union? This question has prompted a heated argument in the Soviet Union. I have pointed out that more and more people now support the household contract system. Soviet leader Gorbachev often refers to such an idea. Social conditions in Soviet rural areas are different from those in the Chinese countryside. China has not lost its longstanding [words indistinct] tradition, while a lot of work has to be done in the Soviet Union, including organizational and legislative work. I think that China's experiences are very significant to us. Of course, we should not mechanically copy China's experiences.

Briefs

Amur-Liaoning Trade

Soviet-Chinese border trade is acquiring new prospects. In the Soviet Far Eastern city of Blagoveshchensk, talks have just been held between delegations from the Amur region of the USSR and from Liaoning Provice of the People's Republic of China. The delegations examined a list of commodities for bilateral exchange. The Chinese delegation showed an interest in setting up joint business ventures. The two sides said such contacts were highly desirable. [Text] [*LD1206010488 Moscow World Service in English 0700 gmt 11 Jun 88*]

Northeast Asia

Carlucci Talks in Far East Assailed

PM1306161188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jun 88 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Military-Political Commentary": "In the Old Rut"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary F. Carlucci can't have felt too comfortable about going to Tokyo and Seoul straight after the Moscow summit. Indeed, the echoes of the speeches on the need for dialogue and the importance of rejecting the confrontational approach had still not died away before he had to plunge once again into the everyday realities of military preparations.

The topic of the talks and consultations held in Japan and South Korea were well known in advance. W. Taft, U.S. deputy defense secretary, outlined the agenda. Last month he officially demanded a sharp buildup in the two U.S. allies' military might and also a considerable increase in the funds earmarked by Japan and South Korea for the maintenance of the U.S. troops stationed on their territory. Quite obviously, these demands can only be justified by loudly shrieking about the "Soviet military threat."

This is what has happened. The Pentagon chief has not budged from the old rut worn by long years of confrontation. So, in the course of the consultations with T. Kawara, chief of the Japan Defense Agency, and at a news conference in Tokyo, F. Carlucci stated that the "Soviet military threat in the Asia-Pacific region is increasing" and lavished compliments on the U.S. "position-of-strength" policy. Statements by Japanese military leaders chimed with those of the visitor.

At present the Japan Defense Agency has elaborated a program providing for a substantial increase in the might of three branches of the country's armed forces. KYODO believes that this project will serve as a kind of guideline when compiling Japan's military budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

One cannot fail to see that practically every item of this plan has been written taking into consideration what the Pentagon wishes. Thus, for instance, there is a proposal to add to the Japanese Navy ships equipped with the latest acoustic submarine detection systems, which will enhance the Japanese Navy's ability to provide combat support to U.S. carrier squadrons. There will be a new buildup of tank forces on the island of Hokkaido, which is off the shores of the Soviet Union. Finally, on direct U.S. recommendations, Japan's naval forces will receive five E-2C Hawkeye aircraft equipped with early warning systems.

It is by no means just a case of new armaments for the Japanese Army. General Ishii, chairman of Japan's Joint Chiefs of Staff, has called for the creation of a united command for Japanese Armed Forces and U.S. troops sited in this country. It is quite obvious that the implementation of this plan will still further subordinate the Japanese "Self-defense Forces" to U.S. military strategy.

"The United States does not intend to withdraw or reduce its armed forces in Asia," F. Carlucci stated, "including in the south of the Korean Peninsula." Indeed the latest—20th—U.S.-South Korean security consultations at the defense minister level occurred to the accompaniment not of a reduction but an increase in the U.S. military presence. All indications are that the present Seoul regime is prepared to invest considerable funds from the state treasury to ensure that more than 40,000 U.S. soldiers and officers remain in the south of the peninsula. Today, according to U.S. data, Seoul's direct subsidies for the maintenance of U.S. troops amount to approximately $100 million.

One cannot fail to see that the U.S. military presence is still the main obstacle on the path of reducing tension in the peninsula. It is only to be regretted that the Americans are ignoring the advice given at the Moscow meeting to study attentively the proposals made by People's Korea. This standpoint, as M.S. Gorbachev stressed, is constructive and conducive to dialogue.

In my opinion, the U.S.-South Korean security consultations would better live up to their title if they discussed the proposals put forward by the DPRK. At present the defense ministers are acting to step up confrontation in the peninsula.

It must be noted that Carlucci's trip to Japan and South Korea showed how strong the old approach to the problem of security still is—an approach which is oriented toward confrontation.

South Korean Interest in Trade Cited

PM0806162588 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 7 Jun 88 p 3

[Report by M. Butkov: "'We Want To Cooperate With You'"]

[Text] This year is the year of the Olympics which, as is well known, are being held in Seoul. South Korea is one of the so-called "new industrial countries" and has firmly taken its place among the world's 20 leading industrial powers. In the sphere of domestic electronic equipment it is nudging aside the world leader—Japan. South Korean firms have already seized a substantial share of the world market in color television tubes. Incidentally, South Korea is already building up the pace of its personal computer production.

South Korean firms link great hopes with the Olympics. I talked with representatives of the Goldstar Limited and Samsung companies—the sponsors of the summer games—during the "Electronics-88" exhibition in Leningrad. It was the first time that representatives of South Korean business or to be more precise of branches of South Korean business legally registered as FRG firms, had visited the Soviet Union.

K.V. Kim [name as published], one of the directors of Goldstar Deutschland GMBKH [initials as published], told me: In 1987 the turnover of the Laki-Goldstar group to which our firm belongs was in excess of $15 billion, of which Goldstar accounts for one-third. The firm has offices and branches in 30 countries and 150,000 workers are employed at the firm's enterprises. Over 90 percent of our output is exported. "Laki Limited" produces plastics and high-quality rubber while Goldstar produces electronics. For instance, the firm's plant in Worms in the FRG produces 400,000 video recorders and 300,000 color television sets a year. For us the 1988 Olympics is an event of enormous importance. We are supplying the Olympics with high-quality electronic apparatus which people throughout the world will be able to assess at its worth.

Mr Kim shows me a map bristling with red dots—they mark the countries where Goldstar does business. But on one-sixth of dry land there is a blank space, he sighs. Your market is boundless, the economic potential is enormous....

He is echoed by Kh. Yang [name as publihsed], director of the firm Samsung Deutschland GMBKH—a branch of Samsung Limited: We deal in everything, from raw material to ultra-sophisticated industrial establishments. The 26 companies which belong to the firm have 56 branches on all continents where they carry out export-import operations and produce machinery, ships, chemicals, foodstuffs, and, of course, electronics.

We are interested not only and not so much in exporting our goods to the Soviet Union. The most promising avenue is joint enterprises which could help to saturate your domestic market and provide high-quality competitive output for export to West European countries.... It would be a good thing if we were able to come to Moscow and hold seminars with Soviet business people and specialists, Kh. Yang continues. After all, we do not really know each other, yet our acquaintance is worth continuing.

Of course, interest in doing business is not enough on its own. There are also political realities. So far the South Korean authorities' political premises and practice have not promoted our trade and economic contacts. Well, let's wait and see.

Near East & South Asia

Gorbachev Meets Najibullah in Kremlin 13 Jun

PM1406095588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jun 88 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With Najibullah"]

[Text] On 13 June, M.S. Gorbachev met in the Kremlin with President Najibullah of the Republic of Afghanistan, who had taken part in the work of the special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament. An exchange of opinion took place on this session which was devoted to the most important sphere of contemporary world politics. President Najibullah shared his impressions of Cuba, where he made an official visit, and spoke of his friendly talks with Fidel Castro. Major international problems were dwelt upon. The unity of views of the Soviet and Afghan leaderships and their readiness to promote the growing positive processes in international relations were confirmed.

Comrade Gorbachev and Najibullah continued the discussion begun 2 weeks ago in Moscow on questions connected with the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the fulfillment of the Geneva agreements, and certain of the most topical problems of Soviet-Afghan cooperation in various fields. It was noted that despite attempts by part of the armed opposition to thwart the implementation of the course toward national reconciliation in Afghanistan, this course is encountering more and more understanding among the population, including those who initially had rejected it. This policy is directed at halting the fratricidal armed struggle, creating a mechanism in keeping with the traditions and aspirations of the Afghan people for administering the country with the participation of all forces without exception that are sincerely concerned for the country's destiny. This is a genuinely national approach, Comrade Gorbachev emphasized. We have no secret designs regarding Afghanistan. Our policy is based upon respect for the Afghan people and their values and full recognition of Afghanistan's autonomy, independence, and non-aligned status. In this capacity Afghanistan will be able to restore its universal international recognition and establish mutually favorable economic cooperation with all who are ready for it. The Soviet Union, which has a 2,000-km frontier with Afghanistan and is a loyal neighbor of long standing, has an interest in precisely such an approach.

Serious concern was expressed over the violation of the Geneva agreements by the Pakistani Administration. The Soviet Union and Afghanistan are counting on the United Nation's monitoring mechanism to ultimately take efficient measures to put an end to this practice which, if it continues, will make it necessary to take the most resolute measures in response.

The Soviet and Afghan leaders also agreed on the more rational use of the aid rendered by the Soviet Union and bilateral cooperation to restore the Afghan economy, implement the social policy, and provide facilities for the returning refugees.

Present at the meeting were Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin.

Najibullah Cables From Plane

LD1406151288 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan's Central Committee and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, has sent a telegram from onboard his plane to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, saying: Flying with my delegation over the territory of the Soviet Union, I am pleased to confirm my sincere feelings and best wishes to the peace-loving Soviet people from myself personally and from the Afghan Government and the Afghan people. Afghan-Soviet friendship and cooperation are developing successfully, and I am sure that our traditionally friendly relations will continue to develop in the future in the interests of both our peoples, in the interests of the region and the whole world.

Najibullah wished Comrades Gorbachev and Gromyko good health and every success in the implementation of the policy of restructuring and strengthening of peace.

Afghanistan's Wakil Discusses New York Visit

LD1306140888 Moscow TASS in English 1313 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—One of the chief results of our visit to New York to attend the U.N. General Assembly's third special session on disarmament is that we got an opportunity to see for ourselves that the stand of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on the implementation of the Geneva accords, particularly in the practical field, is widely supported in the world body, stated 'Abdul Wakil, Afghan minister of foreign affairs.

Together with Afghan President Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, he made a brief stop-over in Moscow on the way home from the Republic of Cuba where the Afghan leader stayed on an official visit following his participation in the U.N. third special session.

The Afghan foreign minister said in an interview with a TASS diplomatic correspondent before leaving the Soviet capital that, when in New York, he learned that Diego Cordovez is to visit Islamabad, Kabul, and Tehran at the end of June to familiarise himself with the course of implementation of the Geneva accords.

It follows from the meetings with the U.N. secretary-general and his personal envoy Diego Cordovez that the international community would demand that Pakistan implement the Geneva accords, 'Abdul Wakil said.

The U.N. member nations show concern over the development of events around Afghanistan, and this inspires hope that the international community will render assistance to us in the normalisation of the situation in Afghanistan and around it, 'Abdul Wakil emphasized.

UN's Diego Cordovez Briefs Press on Afghanistan

LD1406103288 Moscow TASS in English 0551 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] New York June 14 TASS—By TASS correspondent Nikolay Maslov:

The accords on Afghanistan are a history-making agreement opening the way towards real peace in that long-suffering part of the world, Diego Cordovez, special representative of the U.N. secretary general on situation relating to Afghanistan, told a press conference at the U.N. headquarters on Monday. He stressed that the Soviet troops are being returned home even speedier than was expected.

At the same time Cordovez expressed concern about the violation of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan. We foresaw many difficulties, which, unfortunately, crop up now, even at the stage of drafting the accords, he noted. A full check on the implementation of the accords, which came into force on May 15, is to be carried out before the end of the current month upon agreement with the sides concerned. A month has not yet passed. Give them a chance. We will have time to go through all the difficulties and study what has happened.

The problems cropping up are being discussed in an all-round manner with the sides and the guarantors, the special representative of the U.N. secretary general said. We permanently act in close contact and try to reach decisions where the views of the sides are not concurrent.

Asked by a TASS correspondent, Diego Cordovez said that he was very much concerned about the destiny of the Soviet citizens taken prisoner by the Afghan rebels and kept in Pakistan's territory. I am planning to study that problem, he said. Yet so far I do not know what will be done to ensure their return home.

Notes 'Smooth' Withdrawal

OW1406024388 Tokyo KYODO in English 0223 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] New York, June 13 KYODO—The Soviet Union's pullout from Afghanistan is going smoothly and is being carried out faster than expected, U.N. special envoy Diego Cordovez said here Monday.

Cordovez, who acted as mediator in helping finalize the U.N.-sponsored accord on the pullout between Afghanistan, Pakistan, the United States and the Soviet Union, told reporters he believes 50 percent of Soviet troops will be withdrawn by August 15 as scheduled.

His comment contrasts with reports on the possibility of the pullout slowing down.

He said he will visit the withdrawal sites later this month to oversee whether the accord has been fully implemented or not.

Fadeyev Comments on Pakistan-Afghan Relations

LD1306213988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Unfortunately, the signing of the Geneva agreements has not yet brought the longed-for peace to Afghanistan. It is, first and foremost, Pakistan who is responsible for this. My colleague, Vladimir Fadeyev, reports:

[Fadeyev] I personally don't need to resort to citing the Afghan or any other press to give cases of Pakistan's violations of the Geneva agreements, which it signed. It is not yet 3 weeks since I returned from Kabul. I can bear witness to the rocket projectiles which the rebels launch practically every day on the Afghan capital. Explosions and other provocations also continue. This is happening in other towns and settlements, too. Actually, even if I hadn't seen all this with my own eyes, the recent events in Pakistani internal politics—I mean the resignation of the Pakistani Government, led by Prime Minister Junejo—are a public admission by Ziaul Haq of the fact that he is unable to conduct an independent political line after Geneva.

Junejo and his administration had begun to demand that Pakistan obligatorily fulfill the Geneva agreements; in other words, end the hypocritical, adventuristic, and dangerous course regarding neighboring Afghanistan. For this they gave up their mandates. The ex-prime minister—to give him his due—had on several occasions shown political wisdom and common sense by stating that the presence of hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees on Pakistan territory would inevitably have a negative effect on the situation in Pakistan, on its economy, or rather its infastructure.

It is well known that Islamabad exploits the refugees to get financial aid from abroad, and then spends this money on new arms. Unwilling to give up this policy, Ziaul Haq has hindered, in all sorts of ways, even after Geneva, the Afghans' repatriation, saying that the refugees will only be able to return home if there is peace in Afghanistan. As a condition to this situation he suggests replacing the Kabul Government.

Is there any need to recall in this case that the composition of the government of any sovereign country is decided by that country's people, not by the leadership of another state? Yet the head of the Islamabad regime with these words in essence not only supports the leaders of the Peshawar-based rebels, but encourages them to step up their military pressure on the current Kabul Government. Whatever may be said in Islamabad to justify this policy, it smells too openly of the former, aggressive policy against Afghanistan. It looks as if Pakistan is trying to treat the Geneva documents very narrowly and one-sidededly, reducing them simply to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. In this situation, the Afghan and Soviet sides have considered it possible to declare that such a policy is fraught with consequences that threaten Pakistan itself. The maintenance of rebel military bases and training centers for preparing armed opposition detachments on its territory, the sending of these groups along with foreign advisers into Afghanistan, and the expanding psychological war against the Republic of Afghanistan could force Afghanistan and the USSR to reconsider the plan for withdrawing the Soviet troops in accordance with the original schedule.

General Discusses Soviet POW's in Pakistan

LD1306224288 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Jun 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; presented by V. Lobachenko]

[Text] A news conference has been held in Moscow, in the editorial office of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, attended by five former Soviet soldiers with tragic stories. They were fulfilling their internationalist duty in

Afghanistan, where they were captured by armed extremists and forcibly transported to Pakistan. The five soldiers endured great difficulties and deprivations in order to return home, where they are now peacefully living and working. But many of their comrades are still languishing in Pakistani camps and have become the objects of taunts, blackmail, and intimidation. [video shows news conference and panning shot of the soldiers].

[Major General V.P. Khrobostov, identified by caption] Today we know that 311 people have disappeared without trace: one-third died in battle, the others are currently being searched for. Steps are being taken to return them home. The party and the Soviet Government are showing concern and attention for all the close relatives of those who have died and for the disabled and wounded, including those who have returned or will return from captivity.

We are taking steps today in order to establish the fate of every Soviet serviceman who has disappeared without a trace. We will promote our further work to return every missing person, and to ensure that they will all be accepted like any other Soviet person at work or school. As was said before, they will be provided the opportunity to get a higher education and interesting work.

[Lobachenko] After the news conference, an interview with a former prisoner.

[K.V. Metelkov, former prisoner, identified by caption] I believed that the motherland would not forget us or desert us. I want to express enormous gratitude to the Soviet Command and Government for our liberation and for everything that they are doing for us, and what they are now doing for the others who are languishing there.

Polyakov Briefs Egypt's Mubarak on Summit

LD1306141888 Moscow TASS in English 1256 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Cairo June 13 TASS—President Husni Mubarak of Egypt received here today V. Polyakov, a special representative of the Soviet leadership, member of the collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

The Egyptian leader was briefed on the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow. Husni Mubarak spoke highly of the results of the meeting and noted that it was a major event in the world policy and Soviet-U.S. relations which met the interests of all countries and peoples. He stressed that the forceful foreign policy of the Soviet leadership led by Mikhail Gorbachev, efforts to promote the new political thinking in international affairs, and persistent search for solutions to the major problems of world and regional importance enjoyed respect and wide support.

The conversation was attended by Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, head of the president's political office Usamah al-Baz and Soviet Ambassador to Egypt G. Zhuravlev.

Dubinin Statement to Israel's Peres Reported

TA1306115188 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Jun 88 p 4

["Text of the Soviet 'Non-Paper'" which was "Read Out to Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Soviet Ambassador in Washington Yuriy Dubinin During Peres' Recent Visit"—JERUSALEM POST headline; italics as published]

[Text] The current Soviet approach toward an international conference and Arab-Israeli conflict is based on the principles of ensuring the balance of interests of all the sides and searching for constructive and mutually acceptable resolution of all aspects of the conflict. This approach is the result of intensive diplomatic contacts recently held by the USSR.

We proceed from the premise that there are principles of the Middle East conflict from which one can't escape. As to how to approach these principles and translate them into reality, in this field flexibility could be exercised. Durable peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved unless the sides to the conflict consistently adhere to the principles of equality, equal security, non-interference in domestic affairs of each other, respect for political independence and sovereignty, and non-use of force in resolving disputable issues. The territorial basis of the settlement is defined by UN-Resolution 242 which envisages the withdrawal of Israeli troops from *territories* occupied in the course of the 1967 military conflict: *the* West Bank of Jordan, *the* Gaza Strip, *the* Golan Heights. It is necessary to ensure the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. How the Palestinians will exercise this is up to them; to live in their own state or to enter into confederation with any of their neighbours must be decided only by them by means of free expression of their volition.

An international conference under the auspices of the UN is the generally recognized mechanism to search for mutually acceptable solutions of all aspects of the Middle East conflict. The legal basis of the conference must be the recognition by all its participants of resolutions 242 and 338 of the UN Security Council and the legitimate rights of the Palestinians people including the right for self-determination. An international conference is a universal forum which presupposes most diverse forums of participants' interaction—none of them has the right to impose decisions upon other participants. The conference can be attended by representatives of all the sides involved in the conflict, including *the Arab people Palestine* as well as the permanent members of the UN Security Council. We proceed from the fact *the legitimate representative* of the Arab people of Palestine *is the PLO.*

As to the role of the permanent members of the UN Security Council, it would be to create a constructive atmosphere for conduct of negotiations at the conference. For this purpose in particular, they could collectively or individually table proposals and recommendations which could provide the achievement of a mutually acceptable agreement. The invitations to all participants in the conference are to be issued by the UN Secretary General. The work of the conference can be conducted in three basic forums: plenary meetings, convened with one or another degree of *regularity*, as well as on the basis of requests from *direct participants* of the conference, multilateral working groups on issues which concern *the interests of all or of the majority* of the sides to the conflict, geographical working groups on bilateral basis which would consider questions related to one or another Arab side and Israel in such a way of course that the interest of third parties wouldn't be infringed upon as a matter of principle. We are not against intermediate measures and stages on the way to comprehensive settlement, however, such measure and stages should be considered and realized in the framework of the conference and in a linkage with the final solution.

Brutents Views Stands on Mideast Conference

JN1006094488 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 8 Jun 88 p 23

[Interview with Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, by correspondent Salam Musafir in Moscow; date not given]

[Text] Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU, has said that the closeness in the Soviet and U.S. stands on the Middle East issue, which Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev discussed in a news conference following the summit, lies in the intensive dialogue held by the two parties on regional problems, including the Middle East problem. In statements to AL-ANBA', Brutents added: The Middle East situation was discussed at the summit with less propaganda than at previous meetings. As an expert in the Middle East, I believe that discussing the situation in this particular region with a spirit of hostility, confrontation, and interest in compiling points against one another is one thing and holding an intensive dialogue characterized by a practical and continuous nature is something else. The latter is in itself a winning card. The summit was preceded by a move in the U.S. stance. Here, I am talking cautiously and I hope the Arab friends will understand me well. There is a fact which I would like to point to and which I consider one form or sign of rapprochement: There has been a public declaration that an international conference is the basis through which there should be a search for a mechanism to find a solution. Previously, there was no rapprochement between us on this issue. Brutents added: We view an international conference as a formula that will close the door to separate solutions and deals. Such a conference means joint preparedness and determination to search for means bound to help—I emphasize the world help—the parties to the conflict to find a balanced way out of the situation. Previously, the Americans were not willing to work jointly and preferred to work separately. The Arabs know this matter better than we do.

[Musafir] Gorbachev mentioned deep differences with the Americans over a settlement of the Middle East issue. Specifically, what are these points of differences and how can they fit in the context of rapprochement to which the Soviet leader pointed?

[Brutents] First and foremost, these differences are over the formula of an international conference. We are firmly opposed to an international conference being an umbrella for separate agreements. This stand is not only based on our endeavor to play a role in the international conference as a superpower—which we actually seek and we do not conceal this desire—but we also view an international conference as a formula in which everyone will participate to create an atmosphere that can help find ways for a solution. By this we mean securement of a political balance at the international conference, so to speak.

We support a conference that has full and effective powers. We also believe that the role of the 5 Security Council member states, and specifically the Soviet and U.S. roles, will be confined to giving adivce and proposing recommendations to the parties to the conflict. We do not want to impose our view on anyone and we are opposed to imposing the big powers' stands on others. For our part, we do not assume the responsibility of imposing solutions.

We believe that the solution depends first and foremost on the principal participants. We adopt this principled stand. It is also a practical stand. To achieve a lasting peace, the parties to the dispute must voluntarily agree to solving the issue. If such a solution requires an international blessing, then we are ready for this because international support enhances the peace process but on condition that this solution responds to the balanced interests of the parties to the conflict and is in line with the interests of all the parties.

The other point of difference with the Americans is on Palestinian rights. Our stand on this is explicit and was explained by Comrade Gorbachev when he met 'Arafat in his recent visit to Moscow. We support the Palestinians' legitimate right to self-determination, a point over which we completely disagree with the Americans. We believe that this reality should not be circumvented. I believe that this will be accepted sooner or later. If some are still skeptical about the inevitability of the recognition of this Palestinian right, the uprising in the occupied Arab territories has confirmed this right and has confirmed too that the Palestinian people are a people who will not be subdued. On the basis of Mikhail Gorbachev's declaration, I would like to reiterate that we will assist in the attainment of a solution and not in the imposition of any specific solution. We will not act from behind the Arabs back or that of any other people.

[Musafir] If the proposed solution of an international conference continues to founder within the framework of U.S.-USSR relations, what will Moscow do to speed up the settlement?

[Brutents] We do not want to adopt a negative wait-and-see attitude. Our diplomacy is based on containing the problem. Were it only for our diplomatic efforts, then the chances of success will be very, very limited. That's why we will continue to hold a dialogue with the Americans. As Mikhail Gorbachev has stated, we are ready to coordinate and hold continuous direct contacts with the Arab countries with which we have traditional relations of friendship for the attainment of a settlement.

It goes without saying that a united Arab stand will help in rendering the peace process a success. It gives the Arabs further leverage and a real opportunity to proceed toward negotiations without any fear of any Arab party being accused of undertaking a sepparate move. We told President al-Asad that we are convinced that the solution of the Middle East cause will not take place through military force and that our country is ready to invigorate political and diplomatic action for the attainment of a solution.

Gorbachev has affirmed to Egyptian Deputy Prime Minsiter Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid that the relationship with the Arabs will remain one of the major lines of our foreign policy. From this premise, we will relentlessly pursue political action to contain the Middle East crisis and make it move toward a comprehensive and just settlement.

[Musafir] Great hopes were pinned on the Moscow summit producing an agreement on the Middle East, or at least on the Middle East issue getting attention at the summit. Has the Reagan-Gorbachev summit embodied such hopes?

[Brutents] Yes, the issue was given a great deal of attention. I do not see any ground for pinning hopes on solving the issue at the summit. That is because there will be no solution without the participation of the parties directly involved in the conflict. I agree with you that more could have been done at the summit with regard to the Middle East. Nevertheless, the issue was discussed seriously and in depth, and dialogue is in itself an activation of the issue.

[Musafir] Does Moscow expect a change in the U.S. stand during the term of the current U.S. Administration?

[Brutents] It is difficult to expect a qualitative change. However, I believe the U.S. Administration is under the pressure of events. It appears that such pressure and the time factor will at last have an effect on the U.S. Administration, and that ultimately they will understand that the idea that the international conference must be an umbrella for separate deals similar to Camp David is unrealistic. For our part, we welcome the unified Arab stand which is a basic factor in bringing about a solution. I believe the Palestinian uprising must be a factor of inspiration in bringing about such a desired unified stand. We have confidence in the ability of the Arabs and in their great potential that has not been sufficiently used.

[Musafir] Often there is talk about Soviet interests in the Middle East, and that Moscow is concerned with a settlement because of such interests. How can such an equation be understood?

[Brutents] Yes, we have interests in the Arab region. We do not hide that. However, these interests do not at all conflict with Arab interests. We are for the independence of the Arab peoples. We are proud of our traditional friendship with the Arab states. The Arabs can rely on our friendship, for we are genuine friends and our stands are either very close or completely identical to Arab stands.

[Musafir] I would like to ask about what impact detente in USSR-U.S. relations will have on a Middle East settlemnt. There is an impression, over which you may disagree, that understanding between the two giants will be at the expense of a third party?

[Brutents] We often hear such viewpoints. I would like to point out here that detente will also achieve this third party's interests. Nuclear security safeguards the security of all. The nuclear holocaust also threatens all without exception. If a confrontation takes place, no one will be spared. On another level, relative detente between the East and the West will necessarily create an atmosphere that will be propitious for attaining a realistic understanding on the political problems in the world. With respect to the Middle East, political dialogue between Washington and Moscow is one of the most important supportive factors for a peaceful settlement. As I have already stated, we do not impose a solution on any party, and our interests do not conflict with Arab interests. A realistic approach to any solution in the Middle East proceeds from the concept of balanced interests. This means that we support the Palestinians right to self-determination as well as Israel's right to exist and to live in security. This is what we have been saying for a long time. I belive that the Arab friends understand this concept of ours. We do not keep it a secret.

[Musafir] It is known that Shevardnadze will visit the Arab region. Which Arab capital will he visit first?

[Brutents] I have no information about this visit. As for which capital he will first visit, I believe that this is a formal matter and depends on the state of affairs that will exist at the time the visit takes place.

East Europe

Ambassador Stukalin Previews CPSU Conference

LD1006105088 Budapest MTI in English 1711 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Budapest, June 9 (MTI)—The preparations for the 19th party conference are in the final stage. The deputies have been elected all over the country and the Theses of the CPSU Central Committee are being discussed with intense social interest, said Boris Stukalin, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Hungary at the house of the Soviet culture and science to the press on Thursday.

The Soviet people anticipate that the party conference will primarily endorse all the guarantees which will make perestroyka irrevocable by speeding up its implementation. The major value of the Theses is that it gives a summary to the people which helps to understand the essence of the social changes. It is not aimed at declaring unappealable truths but at stimulating initiative and creative debates.

He emphasized that the aim is the elaboration and implementation of such radical reform which permits change from a mainly administrative control system to economic methods. Replying to questions the ambassador detailed how the almost 5 thousand deputies of the party conference were elected. The deputies—for the first time in the history of the CPSU—were selected with the participation of workers, party members and nonmembers in intense debates. On the selection lists, which were drawn openly, the party committees elected the deputies in secret ballots. This election mechanism is considered to be a testing process of the next party congress in the Soviet Union.

During the debates several people took the stand that the conference should renew the composition of the Central Committee. Although in the Theses such ideas are also formulated according to the present organizational statues the conference has no authority to renew the Central Committee. At the same time Boris Stukalin considered possible that during the national conference and/or after it a working group is to be set up to study the related proposals and to prepare the amendment of the statues accordingly.

No foreign delegations are invited to the conference but representatives of the socialist press organs will be present.

Finally Boris Stukalin announced that a Hungarian edition of the "MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI" is to be available. The first two trial editions will be released in July and August, and from September on it will be published weekly.

Deputy Foreign Minister Receives Cardinal Glemp

LD1306143388 Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Aboymov received here today primate of the Roman Catholic Church of Poland, Cardinal Josef Glemp staying in Moscow in connection with the celebration of the millennium of the baptism of Rus. Questions of the peace-making activity of the religious organizations, their fruitful participation in the peace movement were touched upon.

Polish Minister of Culture Visits Kiev

AU1306124488 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Jun 88 p 1

[RATAU report: "A Conversation in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] On 8 June Yu.N. Yelchenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and secretary, met with A. Krawczuk, Polish minister of culture and art.

During a candid and warm conversation, Yu.N. Yelchenko gave an account of the discussion taking place in the republic on the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, and of the measures taken to restructure the sphere of culture. A. Krawczuk informed about changes taking place in Poland's public and cultural life. The importance and topicality of measures taken to strengthen cultural relations between the Polish People's Republic and the Ukrainian SSR within the framework of the declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the sphere of ideology, science, and culture were emphasized.

Participating in the conversation were Z. Domino, deputy chief of the Culture Department in the PZPR Central Committee; B.V. Ivanenko, chief of the Culture Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; Yu.A. Olenenko, Ukrainian SSR minister of culture; and R. Polkowski, Polish consul general in Kiev.

West Europe

Gorbachev, Shevardnadze Meet Cardinal Casaroli

PM1406100488 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 June 88 Second Edition pp 1, 3

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev Receives Cardinal A. Casaroli"]

[Text] On 13 June, M.S. Gorbachev, together with Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican's secretary of state (the head of government) in the Kremlin today.

The cardinal, who is currently in Moscow in connection with the celebration of the millennium of the baptism of Russia, delivered a personal message to Mikhail Gorbachev from Pope John Paul II.

This is the first meeting of a Soviet leader with such a high-ranking representative of the Catholic Church. This very fact reflects the changes taking place in the world and in social consciousness and indicates that realism is increasingly being established in world politics and in human relationships, both within countries and across state borders.

The meeting, during which some practical matters were also touched upon, was predominantly of a conceptual nature. The conversation dealt with the principles of cooperation among all peace forces, the cooperation which is so essential in our days when mankind has encountered unprecedented problems: the nuclear and ecological threats, the danger of disruption of ethical principles of life and of loss of cultural and spiritual values that have been acquired over many centuries.

"We have different initial philosophical positions," Mikhail Gorbachev said. "But we have wide possibilities for cooperation in a common concern for peace, specifically considering such an immense achievement as the Helsinki Final Act, which bears the signatures of our two countries, too."

Cardinal Casaroli highly appreciated the activities of the Soviet leadership that displayed, as he put it, patience and infinite wisdom in the search for ways to real disarmament. [Moscow TASS in English at 1846 GMT on 13 June, in a similar report, renders the preceding sentence as follows: "Cardinal Casaroli highly appreciated the activities of the Soviet leadership that displayed, as he put it, patience and statesmanly wisdom in the search for ways to real disarmament."]

Mikhail Gorbachev supported Casaroli's idea that along with disarmament as a peace-building factor, spiritual mutual understanding is essential, and that the state of affairs in the 'Third World' and cooperation in the protection of the cultural legacy of peoples is a common concern of the world community.

"Peace, which we dream of, irrespective of differences in world-outlook approaches, is possible only on the basis of respect for national values. We are all different, but the diversity of the world is not only material and social wealth but spiritual wealth as well. Therefore, political struggle for disarmament should be combined with large-scale contacts and exchanges in the spiritual sphere."

"However," Mikhail Gorbachev went on to say, "cooperation can be maintained only under conditions of respect for the social choice of everyone." In this connection, he told the cardinal how strongly the Soviet people's belief in socialism and their commitment to the socialist way of life has manifested itself during discussions which have now developed in Soviet society over issues concerning its renewal and restructuring.

"Without respect for this reality, there can be no correct relations with the Soviet Union. And in general, respect for the will of every people is a pledge that international relations as a whole will acquire a civilized nature."

"As far as freedom of religion is concerned, it is sealed in our Constitution, and we abide by this principle. Now that Soviet society is being further democratized, this principle is also within our purview. But all this is our internal affair, and the use of any channels whatsoever, including church channels, for interference is, naturally, unacceptable."

"We shall attentively consider the message from the pope, including the question of giving a regular character to contacts between our states," Mikhail Gorbachev said. "I think that after this meeting—and one may agree that it was of friendly nature—the two sides have ground for reflection. Both you and we need to think everything over. As it has turned out, there exists a basis for the establishment of a dialogue."

Casaroli Briefs Press

LD1306194388 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, secretary of state of the Vatican, who arrived in Moscow to attend the celebrations of the one thousand years of Christianity in Russia, today spoke to Soviet and foreign journalists.

He noted a good organisation of the festivities and shared his impressions of the visit of the Moscow Kremlin.

Responding to newsmen's questions, Cardinal Casaroli pointed out a cordial and friendly atmosphere in which the meeting with the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev took place and during which he conveyed to the Soviet leader a personal message from Pope John Paul the Second.

Cardinal Casaroli noted the positive shifts that have occurred in Soviet society since April 1985, including in the field of religion, and dwelt on the role of the church in the work for peace and friendship among nations.

Obukhov Briefs FRG Officials on Summit

LD1106023988 Moscow TASS in English 2052 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Bonn June 10 TASS—The Soviet Union declares for a dynamic continuation to the process of the elimination and reduction of military arsenals and is prepared for talks on all the aspects of arms control and disarmament. This was emphasized during conversations of special representative of the Soviet leadership A. Obukhov with prominent FRG politicians held here on June 9-10. He informed them of the results of the Soviet-American summits in Moscow. A. Obukhov met with chief of the Foreign Policy Department of the Chancellor's Office Horst Teltschik, state secretary of the FRG Foreign Minister Juergen Sudhoff, with experts of the Bonn Foreign Policy Department on Disarmament, with chairman of the S.P.D. Hans-Jochen Vogel. USSR Ambassador to the FRG Yu. Kvitsinskiy took part in the conversations.

West German politicians noted that the results of the Soviet-American summit are highly appraised in the FRG. The FRG Government holds that a dialogue between the leaders of the USSR and the United States is a motive force in the development of East-West relations and is of fundamental importance for the consolidation of international security. Bonn is of the opinion that further steps toward disarmament should follow the treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles. Fifty percent cuts in strategic offensive arms of the USSR and the United States and a ban on chemical weapons are meant. The FRG shows special interest in ensuring the stability in the area of conventional armaments and declares for the removal of the existing imbalances. The FRG Government wishes the talks on this problem to be started as early as this year.

When A. Obukhov met with members of the Presidium and Secretariat of the Board of the German Communist Party, a consensus was expressed that in a nuclear age one should be guided by new thinking in order to resolve cardinal problems. Given goodwill, the creation of a common European home and the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000 can become reality.

The West German interlocutors showed lively interest in scopeful transformations made in the USSR, in the preparation for the 19th all-union party conference.

The official representative of the Soviet leadership gave a press conference.

Adamishin Received by Greek Prime Minister

LD1106163188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1757 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Athens, 10 Jun (TASS)—Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou today received USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.L. Adamishin, special representative of the Soviet leadership.

The head of the Greek Government was informed in detail on the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow.

A. Papandreou noted the historic importance of the Moscow meeting of the leaders of the USSR and the United States, which was marked by the coming into force of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. He stressed that the improvement in relations between the USSR and the United States is followed with hope and enthusiasm in Greece, as in other countries. The prime minister spoke in favor of further progress on matters of nuclear disarmament and of the earliest possible elimination of chemical weapons, and noted with interest the Soviet proposals on three stages of negotiations on conventional armed forces and weapons and the reorientation of military structures exclusively toward nonoffensive defense. Greece, he said, intends to continue to make a constructive contribution to the cause of strengthening general peace and security.

The prime minister highly assessed Soviet-Greek relations and spoke in favor of their further development in various spheres.

A. Slyusar Appointed Envoy to Greece

LD1006225588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2050 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, 11 June (TASS)—The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Anatoliy Slyusar as the USSR's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Hellenic Republic.

Anatoliy Slyusar was born in 1934. He has been engaged in diplomatic work since 1957. He has occupied an number of senior positions in the USSR Foreign Ministry and abroad. From 1972 to 1977 he was a counsellor at the USSR Embassy in France. From 1977 to 1980 he was counsellor envoy at the USSR Embassy in Spain. At present he is a first deputy chief and head of a section in the Evaluation and Planning Administration of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has relieved Viktor Stukalin of his duties as the USSR's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Hellenic Republic in connection with his retirement.

Latin America & Caribbean

Afghan President Najibullah Departs Cuba 11 Jun

LD1206060988 Moscow TASS in English 0602 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Havana June 12 TASS—Afghan President Najibullah ended his official friendly visit to Cuba on Saturday. He stayed here at the invitation of Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic.

During the stay of the Afghan leader on Cuban soil, official Cuban-Afghan talks were held.

The visit produced a number of documents, including a treaty on friendship and cooperation between Cuba and Afghanistan, an interparty agreement on cooperation between the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Communist Party of Cuba and a protocol on cultural cooperation between the two countries. These documents laid down more solid foundation for extending and expanding Cuban-Afghan relations.

President Najibullah spoke at a press conference held at the end of his talks here, describing their results as "a new step in developing relations" between the two countries.

Bilateral Cooperation Cited

LD1206101288 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0625 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Havana 12 Jun (TASS)—On Saturday, Afghan President Najibullah ended his official friendly visit to Cuba. He stayed here at the invitation of Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers.

Official Cuban-Afghan talks were held during the Afghan leader's stay on Cuban soil.

The visit produced a number of documents, including a treaty on friendship and cooperation between Cuba and Afghanistan, an inter-party agreement on cooperation between the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] and the Cuban Communist Party, and a protocol on cultural cooperation between the two countries.

The inter-party agreement provides for the development of links between the PDPA and the Cuban Communist Party for the period 1988-1992, for expanding cooperation among social and other mass organizations of the two countries, and for the exchange of information and delegations. It also provides for Afghan students to study at the Nico Lopez party college in Havana.

The friendship and cooperation treaty between Cuba and Afghanistan was signed by Fidel Castro and Najibullah. They noted that this document gives new vital force to the relations of friendship and solidarity between the Cuban and Afghan peoples. We understand and warmly support the policy of the present Afghan leadership, Fidel Castro said at the solemn ceremony. He expressed the conviction that the Afghan people would cope with the existing difficulties and that their reward would be peace in the country.

A telegram to the Cuban leader sent by President Najibullah from the aircraft after leaving Havana says that the Afghan-Cuban meetings and talks marked the beginning of a new stage in strengthening the friendship between the PDPA and the Cuban Communist Party, and between the governments and peoples of the two countries.

Murakhovskiy Receives Cuban Official

LD1306224788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2110 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] On 13 June Comrade Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agroprom, received Herrera, the Cuban sugar industry minister.

They reviewed results of bilateral contacts and discussed some questions of extending and deepening scientific-technical and economic cooperation. They devoted particular attention to the development of new and more effective forms of foreign economic contacts.

Nicaraguan Peace Talks Reportedly 'Disrupted'

LD1006153888 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Managua June 10 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Kurguzov reports:

Leaders of the armed counterrevolutionary forces have disrupted for an indefinite period of time their talks with the Nicaraguan Government on reaching a final ceasefire agreement. The heads of the 'resistance' forces blocked all the peace initiatives of the government delegation and put forward their own settlement plan which envisages serious political concessions on the part of Nicaragua. Apart from it, they turned down the government's plan on final ceasefire and refused to continue talks on the basis of peace agreements reached in Sapoa.

Humberto Ortega, defense minister of Nicaragua, said at a press conference here Thursday that the 'resistance' forces had agreed in principle to continue the dialogue and pledged to refrain from offensive combat operations. He reiterated that the national leadership was determined to work for a peaceful settlement in Nicaragua and to live up to its ceasefire commitments.

Ortega Assesses Talk Prospects

LD1206100488 Moscow TASS in English 0947 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Managua June 12 TASS—The wrecking of the ceasefire talks with the Nicaraguan Government by the contra leaders calls in question the peace process in Central America, President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has stated here.

The national leadership, he said in the "Face the People" radio and television programme, is ready to continue the search for peace under the peace accords signed at Sapoa together with the contras, and will maintain the unilateral cessation of offensive operations until June 30.

We are prepared to discuss the remaining items on the agenda of the dialogue with a view to stopping bloodshed in the country and achieving national reconciliation.

However, much will also depend on the stand of the contras and the U.S. Administration. Despite numerous statements by spokesmen for the White House, and in particular by Elliott Abrams, assistant U.S. secretary of state for inter-American affairs, on the eve of the meeting in Managua as to striving to promote a solution to the Central American issue, the policy of the Reagan administration is still aimed at thwarting opportunities for a peaceful settlement, Daniel Ortega pointed out.

The U.S. desire to kill the very possibility of a political solution to the conflict is evidenced by accusations being levelled by Elliott Abrams at Nicaragua about its ostensibly irresponsible attitude to the dialogue, although the Nicaraguan delegation at the talks took quite a flexible stand. Those statements are a reflection of the aggressive policy of the administration's extremist circles that insist on a continuation of the funding of the contras and on escalation of the aggression against Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan 'Contras' Continue Provocations

LD1206100388 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Managua June 12 TASS—In breach of pledges to discontinue offensive operations, the contras made a number of provocative attacks against units of the Sandinista People's Army (SPA).

The Nicaraguan Ministry of Defence announced here on Saturday that on June 7-9 the contras attacked SPA positions in central and northern areas of the country, and clashes ensued. Four mercenaries were killed during the exchange of fire and arms and military equipment were captured.

Simultaneously with stepping up subversive activity, the contras carry out terrorist acts against civilian population. Over the past three days, they drove 77 Nicaraguan peasants away as hostages.

The toughening of the Somozists' provocations indicates that the armed counterrevolutionaries, at the CIA bidding, still count on a continuation of the aggression and on frustration of the peace process in Nicaragua.

Political & Social

More on Latest Unrest in Armenia, Azerbaijan

Gerasimov Confirms Baku Killing

AU1306123788 Paris AFP in English 1231 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 13 (AFP)—An Azerbaijani police sergeant was killed Saturday by a ricocheting bullet from a gun apparently fired by an Armenian, during an anti-Armenian demonstration in the Azerbaijani capital Baku, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said here Monday.

He said that according to information from Azerbaijani authorities, the bullet, fired by a Mr. Aganbekyan, had "deviated from its course" and fatally wounded the Azerbaijani policeman he identified as Sergeant Ismaylov, born in 1951. He did not confirm the nationality of the attacker, who however has an Armenian name.

The spokesman denied reports that Armenians had been killed during the demonstration, which he said had been staged to press for the retention by Azerbaijan of Nagorno-Karabakh, an Azerbaijani region claimed by Armenians.

An Armenian nationalist had announced Sunday during a rally at a Moscow cemetery that a policeman had been killed in Baku along with several Armenians. Mr. Gerasimov said that after the cemetery meeting, "at which there were yells that two Armenians were killed", the Armenians had marched to the TASS building in central Moscow.

"The rumour about the murder of two Armenians is false," Mr. Gerasimov said. But he would not say if any Armenians had been injured after the demonstrations in which, according to sources in Baku, the Azeris shouted "death to Armenians."

Death 'Being Investigated'

LD1406074088 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] In comments on the meeting held by Armenians outside the building of the news agency TASS, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told newsmen that the meeting had bee triggered off by unfounded rumors on the killing of two ethnic Armenians in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan. In fact, a shot which was fired from a hunting rifle ricocheted from a wall, killing an Azerbaijani policeman, Ismaylov. At the moment the incident is being investigated, Gennadiy Gerasimov said. As for the meeting held outside the TASS building, it went on peacefully without police interference.

Armenian Parliament To Back Demands

AU1306205688 Paris AFP in English 2033 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 13 (AFP)—The parliament in the Soviet Republic of Armenia will give a "positive" response to demands for the integration of the Nagorno-Karabakh region, the head of the Armenian Communist Party said on Monday. The first secretary of the party in Armenia, Suren Arutyunyan, made the announcement in the republic's capital of Yerevan, an Armenian nationalist source told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The source, Igor Muradyan, said that Mr. Arutyunyan told a mass meeting of 300,000 people that the local parliament, which opens a special session on Wednesday, would give a "positive" response to the demands which have sparked a wave of unrest in Armenia and the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan.

Nagorno-Karabakh, which has an Armenian majority, was joined to mainly Moslem Azerbaijan by Josef Stalin in 1923.

Azerbaijan Presidium Denies Request

NC1406063288 Baku Domestic Service in Armenian 0340 GMT 14 Jun 88

[From the Republican Press Review]

[Text] The Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium held its meeting yesterday. This meeting studied the proposals made by the deputies of the Soviet of People's Deputies of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast on taking the oblast out of the Azerbaijan SSR and including it in the Armenian SSR. The meeting was attended by Presidium members Amanov, Begirov, Dzhamalova, Mustafayev, Nikitin, Solov'yev, and (Taghiyev), as well as by the republic's prosecutor Ismailov. The minutes of the meeting were kept by Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Tatliyev.

The Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium meeting accepted the decision on the proposal of the deputies of the Soviet of People's Deputies of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast on taking the oblast out of the Azerbaijan SSR and including it in the Armenian SSR. This is reported in today's papers.

After a thorough study of all the aspects of the request by the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast's deputies of the Soviet of People's Deputies, the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium has found this request unacceptable because—as the decision states—its implementation will be contrary to the interests of the Azerbaijani and Armenian population of the republic and would be incompatible with the tasks of consolidating the friendship between all the peoples of our country, as well as with the task of reconstruction.

Azerbaijan Committee Decision

NC1406084688 Baku Domestic Service in Armenian 0340 GMT 14 June 88

[From the Republican Press Review]

[Text] Today's papers report on the decision adopted by the Azerbaijan Communist Party Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Party Committee Bureau which seriously assessed the situation created in the oblast as a result of strikes and of illegal meetings and demonstrations in industrial, construction and transportation establishments, organizations, and a number of administrations in Stepanakert city.

This decision has been published in all the newspapers of the republic.

Vezirov Attends Workers' Meeting

NC1406070488 Baku Domestic Service in Armenian 0340 GMT 14 Jun 88

[From the Republican Press Review]

[Text] On 13 June a Baku workers' meeting was held at Vladimir Ilich Lenin Square. The meeting was attended by representatives from Baku's factories, workers' collectives, organizations, institutions, and educational establishments.

As reported in today's papers, the meeting was attended by Vezirov, Azerbaijan SSR Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, who warmly welcomed the Baku workers and all the participants in the meeting on behalf of the Azerbaijan SSR Communist Party Central Committee. Comrade Vezirov said: Today's meeting is a convincing reply to the provocations that have taken place. It is a consolidation of the healthy forces and the manifestation of the determination (?of the people) not to allow the exacerbation of fears and emotions that can result in unforeseen consequences.

Arutyunyan Attends Meeting

NC1406084288 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 14 Jun 88

[From the review of SOVETAKAN AYASTAN]

[Text] The paper informs us that Comrade Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party, attended the gathering of workers and students at Yerevan's Opera Square. Comrade Arutyunyan spoke about the draft of a resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR on the decision of the extraordinary session of the oblast Soviet of Peoples' Deputies of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan SSR dated 20 February 1988, petitioning the supreme soviets of the Azerbaijan and Armenian SSR's to transfer the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast from the structure of the Azerbaijan SSR to the structure of the Armenian SSR.

It was pointed out that the work of the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian SSR will be relayed by television. All the accumulated problems, Comrade Arutyunyan noted, must be solved (?through the necessary steps), without emotionalism and in a normal situation.

Comrade Arutyunyan's [word indistinct] was warmly greeted by the participants in the gathering.

Armenians, Azerbaijanis Swapping Homes

AU1406071888 Paris AFP in English 0654 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 14 (AFP)—Armenians living in the Azerbaijani town of Sumgait and Azerbaijani families in Armenian towns have filled out forms to exchange homes in the neighbouring republics torn by ethnic unrest, the official Armenian newspaper KOMMUNIST has reported. Friday's edition of the paper reaching here Tuesday said that 85 families living in Sumgait had filled out forms to exchange houses with "citizens" wanting to leave the Armenian district of Masiss, and the Armenian towns of Kafan and Dzhermuk, for Azerbaijan. These areas are close to the border with Azerbaijan. KOMMUNIST said that 118 other families had asked for land to build homes in Armenia, and students had been called in to help in urgent construction work.

As of the beginning of this month, a total 2,780 people were temporarily staying in Armenia, having fled bloody riots in Sumgait from February 27-29 in which 26 Armenians were massacred, the paper confirmed. It added that 1,822 of these had last week sought permanent residence permission. The Sumgait riots were sparked by unrest in Nagorno-Karabakh, an Armenian-dominated enclave inside Azerbaijan which the Armenians want transferred to Armenia.

Armenia is currently paralysed by a strike as thousands of Armenians demonstrate on the eve of a Supreme Soviet (parliament) session Wednesday which according to Armenian leader Suren Arutyunyan will vote in favour of the transfer to Armenia of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Strike Ends; Claim Rejected

AU1406073888 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 14 (AFP)—A general strike throughout Armenia ended Tuesday after the Soviet republic's Communist Party leader told a meeting of half a million people that the local parliament would back their territorial demands, official sources said.

But an Azerbaijani official said authorities in the neighbouring republic had rejected Armenians' demands for the transfer to Armenia of the Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

A journalist at the official Armenian newspaper KOMMUNIST, Karen Zakharyan, said that "transport and firms are working" in the southern republic's capital, Yerevan, and in the other Armenian towns after the one-day work stoppage. He said that half a million people had gathered at the city's Opera Square Monday afternoon to listen to the Communist Party first secretary, Suren Arutyunyan, who was appointed on May 21. Mr. Zakharyan attributed the return to work by thousands of people in Yerevan to Mr. Arutyunyan's intervention.

A mass meeting on Sunday had voted for a three-day strike until the Armenian Supreme Soviet, or parliament, met Wednesday to discuss popular demands for the transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh, which has a mainly Armenian population.

The Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry official, contacted by telephone from Moscow, said that Mr. Arutyunyan's Azerbaijan counterpart, Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, had told a mass meeting in central Baku Monday that the presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet had "rejected the demand" at a meeting earlier in the day. The territorial demand was rejected because it "contravenes the laws and Constitution of Azerbaijan and of the Soviet Union," Mr. Vezirov, who was appointed at the same time as Mr. Arutunyan, said. He confirmed that the Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan would meet on Friday to vote on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

The Supreme Soviet in Yerevan is to vote on a motion first adopted by the Nagorno-Karabakh Council of People's Deputies on February 20, which calls for the restoration of Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia. The mountainous enclave has belonged to Azerbaijan since 1923.

Igor Muradyan, a member of the officially-dissolved Yerevan-based pressure group the Karabakh Committee, had said Monday evening that despite Mr. Arutyunyan's statement the strike would continue. The industrial action was called after news spread of a meeting in Moscow last week attended by the Azerbaijani and Armenian leaders and chaired by Kremlin number two Yegor Ligachev.

Mr. Arutyunyan informed participants at Monday's mass demonstration of the results of the Moscow meeting, and said details would be published. He added that a "top level" inquiry would look into the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

Demonstrations have also been held in Azerbaijan opposing the transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh. An Azerbaijani policeman was shot dead on Saturday during an anti-Armenian demonstration in Baku.

Under the Soviet Constitution, the changing of territorial boundaries must be done with the permission of the republic concerned. In the case of Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan must agree to the change.

Militant Says Strike Continues

AU1406085288 Paris AFP in English 0847 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 14 (AFP)—A general strike was still gripping the Armenian capital Yerevan on Tuesday, although transport was working in the city, an Armenian nationalist militant said Tuesday. Movses Gordissyan said that 80 per cent of the people in Yerevan, a city of one million, were observing the strike for the second straight day prior to a local parliamentary session which will vote on Armenians' territorial demands. Mr. Gordissyan said that other Armenian towns continued to be paralysed by the strike, as well as Nagorno-Karabakh, the Azerbaijani region which Armenians want transferred to Armenia.

Earlier Tuesday, a journalist at the official newspaper KOMMUNIST in Yerevan had said that Armenians had gone back to work Tuesday after an appeal from Armenian Communist party leader Suren Arutyunyan during a mass meeting Monday.

Mr. Gordissyan said that Mr. Arutyunyan's speech, in which he notably said that the republic's Supreme Soviet would vote in favour of the transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia, had been broadcast three times by Armenian television.

Four people—out of an original seven—were continuing a hunger strike in the centre begun on June 4, and that university students were pressing a sit-in to call for the territorial transfer.

Letter Views Issue of Nagorno-Karabakh Transfer

PM1306192188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jun 88 First Edition p 1

[Letter from Candidate of Technical Sciences V. Kolmychkov, war and labor veteran, under the rubric "This Issue's Letter": "The Transcaucasus Is My Home"]

[Text] Leningrad—The news from Armenia and Azerbaijan has brought heartache for Soviet people. I am a Russian and I am a native of Baku. During the war my family ended up in Arkhangelsk, whence I moved to Leningrad, where I am still living. I have many relatives and friends in Tbilisi, Baku, and Yerevan. There are Russians, Armenians, Greeks, and Azerbaijanis among them. So I have every right to consider the Transcaucasus my own homeland.

...And then such a dramatic turn of events. How do you square this with the memory of the international cohort of Baku commissars? Without a doubt, problems have accumulated in the national question. But I simply cannot take in what is happening there. Is it really so easy for certain people to put the skids under the sacred cause of the peoples' friendship, a cause bequeathed us by the revolution?

Those people in Armenia who ventured to organize meetings demanding the immediate transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh to the Armenian SSR were not thinking of the peoples' friendship, nor had they given any thought to the Armenian people. For just as many Armenians live in the rayons of Azerbaijan, in Baku, as in Nagorno-Karabakh. Affairs between good neighbors are not settled thus!

And the matter of transferring Nagorno-Karabakh is not such a simple one. The Armenian and Azerbaijani peoples are intermingled throughout Azerbaijan. As for Nagorno-Karabakh, it is separated from the Armenian SSR by a mountain range, and its economy has long constituted a single whole with that of Azerbaijan. Here you find the city of Shusha, which is revered as the traditional center of Azerbaijan's musical folk culture. And if some people in Nagorno-Karabakh really did want to renounce the status of autonomous oblast and join the Armenian SSR, then this question must be resolved without haste, prudently and without any excess of emotion, in a good-neighborly fashion. Ultimatum is inappropriate here.

Today's agenda includes the question of improving national policy. It is completely natural for us to be pondering how to eliminate the blank spots in our history. But then it somehow begins to be forgotten that the country's peoples are obligated to Great October for the preservation and emergence of their national cultures. It is the brotherhood of the peoples that was both the means and the end of this great revolution. The idea of brotherhood is no less topical in our times; it is the guarantee of the future of the Land of the Soviets, of the development of the national cultures; it is the source of mutual cultural enrichment and, simultaneously, of our national originality.

If we look back we will recall that even quite recently Yerevan was a small town, and that Tbilisi and Baku were the cultural centers of the Armenian people. Now Yerevan is a major cultural center. But why should Tbilisi and Baku lose out as centers of Armenian and, moreover, Russian culture; is this not a retrograde step?

Why should Armenians and Russians feel constrained and leave their native areas in Azerbaijan (and that same Karabakh or Baku), and Azerbaijanis leave Armenia? Does this promote the preservation and development of the international spirit and friendship of our peoples? Something is not right here. And this stems from our ideological unpreparedness for the solution of contemporary national problems. In some places in the country, I believe, there is a negligent attitude toward the interests of the republics' inhabitants of nonindigenous nationality.

Moreover, the term "nonindigenous nationality" is an extremely unfortunate one. After all, Russians, shall we say, have been living in Azerbaijan for more than 2 centuries. The same can be said of Armenians in Azerbaijan, Azerbaijanis in Armenia, and so on and so forth.

I have a proposal. Our republics are multinational. Since we have a Soviet of Nationalities at union level, why do we not have such soviets at republic and autonomous oblast level? Representatives of the main nationalities inhabiting a republic could be elected to them. A republic's Soviet of Nationalities could examine the national aspects of the leadership of a region's life. This would ensure the equality of all the nationalities of a republic.

Academician Comments on Nagorno-Karabakh

NC1006124588 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1730 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Comments by Academician Eduard Dzhrbashyan, member of the Armenian SSR Science Academy; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] True democracy begins when not only all the necessary conditions are present, but when people are able to correctly make use of these conditions. All of us today are answerable for the fate of our public and each individual.

I do not doubt that an important place will be given to the issue of national relations during the forthcoming CPSU Congress. Fortunately, today we are not among those who once said that the national problem in our country has been solved decisively and definitively. The victories scored by our party's Leninist national policy are well known. However, we should not forget that unsolved and unfortunate issues have been accumulated throughout the years, and these cannot be ignored. The well-known incidents in Nagorno-Karabakh and the measures taken in our republic are good examples which prove this point. The political and psychological tensions affiliated with this issue have reached such levels today that it is impossible to postpone a solution. It is indisputable that these issues can be solved only in an atmosphere of the process of reconstruction, democratization and openness. Free national self-expression and self-determination can be achieved only if fundamental Leninist laws are applied—something on which the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh also depends.

This is why I can say that whoever is waiting for a solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh issue—and all of us are waiting for this—should be strongly defending the process of reconstruction and of democratization. We should not resort to any extreme act that may denigrate the high standard of our peaceful, democratic and disciplined life. We should not grant an opportunity to the opponents of reconstruction to sarcastically imply that we should tighten the screws or to call for a powerful hand.

I would like to conclude by saying that in preparing for the CPSU conference—and always—we should be on top of current events and believe in the victory of logic and justice.

PRAVDA Cited on Arzamas Chemical Explosion

LD1106090988 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 11 TASS—The picture of what happened has become clearer and more tragic a week after three railway wagons exploded at Arzamas station, writes today's PRAVDA in a dispatch headlined "Arzamas: The Echo of the Tragedy".

The number of the victims of the accident when industrial explosives went off is nearing 100. More than 200 people have been hospitalized. There are people who are reported missing. More than 700 families have lost their homes.

The newspaper reports measures to eliminate the aftermath of the blast. Along with local builders, there are also 2,500 construction workers who have arrived here from other regions of the country. The authorities are taking measures to expedite the work and to provide people with all necessaries.

The tragedy is being widely covered in the press. However, in some places rumours are still rife that the wagons contained either toxic chemicals or radioactive substances. "I can testify to what I made certain myself," writes the PRAVDA correspondent. "There was nothing of the kind in that train".

Without forestalling the conclusions of the investigation which is being carried out with the participation of 60 lawyers, the correspondent reports some findings. There is seemingly no criticism of the condition of the locomotive and the railway train but it is clear that the train crew did not know what exactly they were carrying in those wagons. The train documents listed less explosive cargoes than those which were transported in actual fact.

Besides, explosives which are categorically forbidden to be transported together were loaded into the ill-fated wagons. The study of wagons which were also loaded with explosives but reached destination safely has shown that during loading operations there were serious violations of the rules for the transportation of dangerous cargoes.

Zaykov, Baklanov at Moscow Research Institute

PM1006152188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jun 88 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report under rubric "We Discuss the CPSU Central Committee Theses": "Contribution of Science"]

[Text] A businesslike, committed discussion of the Central Committee Theses for the 19th all-union party conference has begun in party organizations and labor collectives throughout the capital.

A discussion by the party-economic aktiv of the automatic apparatus research institute 8 June proceeded in a constructive, democratic atmosphere. L.N. Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took part.

They discussed the progress made in scientific developments, the introduction of economic accountability [khozraschet], and the working and social conditions of the collective.

Batalin, Others View Cadre Training Course

PM0806093588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 88 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Cadre Training"]

[Text] A training course for heads of construction and municipal services departments of union republic Communist Party central committees and party kraykoms and obkoms has ended at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences Institute for Improving the Qualifications of Leading Party, Soviet, and Ideological Cadres.

During the course there was an examination of topical questions of Marxist-Leninist theory, the implementation of the party's strategic course of restructuring and the acceleration of socioeconomic development, and the steady work of the construction complex in the new conditions of economic management.

Students were addressed by A.G. Melnikov, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Construction Department; Yu.P. Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy; P.Ya. Slezko and G.P. Kryuchkov, deputy chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; V.A. Brezhnev, V.I. Bukato, S.F. Voyenushkin, M.S. Zotov, N.P. Malshakov, V.I. Reshetilov, A.N. Shchepetilnikov, S.S. Kurdyukov, and V.I. Popov, leaders of ministries and departments; V.M. Serov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; A.M. Yakovlev, chairman of the Construction and Building Materials Industry Workers Union Central Committee; Yu.P. Platonov, first secretary of the board of the USSR Architects Union; Academician L.I.

Abalkin, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Economics; executives of the CPSU Central Committee, scientists, and journalists.

During study visits to Vladimir and Moscow Oblasts the students were acquainted with the practical work of the party leadership of regional construction, the organization of the state acceptance of housing and the construction industry's output, and the work being done there in cultural and consumer construction and resource-saving. Students took part in an all-union conference on problems of the preservation, restoration, and use of historical and cultural monuments and attended various thematic exhibitions.

Further on Christian Millenium Celebrations

Gromyko Receives Churchmen

LD1106202588 Warsaw PAP in English 1920 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow, June 11: Participants and guests of the observances of the millenium of Russia's Christianity were received by Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Andrey Gromyko in the Kremlin today.

Patriarch of Moscow and All-Russia Pimen, representatives of the clergy of the Russian Orthodox Church and foreign delegations were present at the meeting. Foreign delegations included Poland's Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp, superior of the Orthodox Church, Metropolitan of Warsaw and entire Poland Bazyli, first bishop of the Polish Catholic Church Tadeusz Majewski, general dean of the Polish Army Father Colonel Florian Klewado, vice-President of the Polish Council of State and chairman of the PAX Catholic Association Zenon Komender, member of the Polish Council of State and chairman of the Christian Social Association Kazimierz Morawski and head of the Office for Religious Affairs Wladyslaw Loranc.

Gromyko sized up the introduction of Christianity in Russia as an important event in the history of the world, European and Russian culture.

Late this afternoon, Poland's Primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp celebrated a mass service for Poles at St Louis Church here. Present at the service were Zenon Komender and Kazimierz Morawski.

The primate greeted convened believers who included also Russians, Belorussians, Ukrainians and Lithuanians of the Roman Catholic Denomination. In his homily, Cardinal Glemp discussed participation of Roman Catholics in the celebrations of the millenium of Russia's conversion to Christianity as well as the community of Catholic and Orthodox churches which had grown from the same seed, which worship Jesus Christ, adore his mother and preach the Gospel.

Demichev, Talyzin at Meeting

LD1006094388 Moscow TASS in English 0912 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 10 TASS—A solemn meeting to mark the 1,000 anniversary of Christianity in Russia took place at the Bolshoy Theatre today. Sitting in the Presidium are the supreme hierarchs of the Russian Orthodix Church, Petr Demichev, first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament), Nikolay Talyzin, first deputy prime minister, Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs, representatives of the Soviet public and foreign guests.

Addressing the meeting, Patriarch Pimen of Moscow and all Russia stressed that the church sought to make fruitful contribution to attaining common spiritual goals, to extending joint service in order to strengthen peace and justice on earth, to preserve the integrity of the creation of God.

Patriarch Pimen noted that he and all members of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church were deeply impressed by the April 1988 meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. "All believers in our country received this historic event with great enthusiasm. We are glad that the Leninist principles of approaching religion have been restored and believe that it will serve to strengthen the unity of our people, the prestige of our motherland," he said.

Patriarch Pimen noted that "the church sees its responsibility, together with all Christian peace makers, to proclaim the good news of peace through Jesus Christ (Acts 10,36) as an important and inalienable part of service to the motherland on earth."

In this connection, Patriarch Pimen highly assessed the ratification of the INF Treaty. "The world," he said, "must be delivered from the horrors of nuclear war, from the heavy burden of the arms race. We believe that Christians must actively cooperate with all people of good will, with the followers of all faiths, with our non-religious brothers and sisters in the sacred cause of preserving the sacred gift of life, in their efforts to strengthen peace."

"We must enter into the third millennium of the coming of our Lord into the world with a lasting, nuclear-free peace on earth, prayer and blessed work," said the Patriarch.

Then Metropolitan Juvenaliy of Krutitsiy and Kolomna delivered a report on the millennium of Christianity in Russia. Having outlined the path covered by the Russian Orthodox Church over ten centuries, the metropolitan stressed that it "helped develop on the national basis the foundations of culture in Russia, its morality and statehood. The church brought to our people written language, formed the self-consciousness of the nation complete with public memory and patriotism."

Today, the metropolitan continued, the church is an inalienable and active part of many Soviet public organisations. Together with the peoples of the USSR it carries out its patriotic and peace service in them.

Reception at Kremlin Noted

LD1106221588 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 Jun 88

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers Council for Religious Affairs has organized a reception in the Kremlin on behalf of the government in honor of the participants in and guests of the festivities devoted to the millennium of the introduction of Christianity in Russia. Demichev and Talyzin and other officials attended the reception.

Patriarch Pimen Holds Reception

LD1206174288 Moscow TASS in English 1647 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 12 TASS—Those present at the reception given by Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Pimen in honour of the participants in the celebrations of the one thousand years of Christianity in Russia received with great understanding the call by the head of the Russian Orthodox Church "not to relax efforts in accomplishing the sacred peacemaking service central to which now is concern about preserving the sacred gift of life".

During the reception representatives of Christian and other churches, figures of public organisations addressed greetings to Patriarch Pimen. Many of them presented commemorative gifts to the patriarch.

The speech by Valeriy Saykin, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Soviet (council), was received with applause. He said that the celebration of such a historical jubilee as the one thousand years of Christianity in Russia was an honour for the city and each of its residents. The city has done a good deal for the guests of the Russian Orthodox Church to feel Russian hospitality. Valeriy Saykin noted that he had already signed a document on allotting a land plot where a cornerstone would be laid on June 13 for a new cathedral dedicated to the one thousand years of the baptism of Russ.

Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Council for the Affairs of Religions at the USSR Council of Ministers, was present at the reception.

Vatican Prefect Speaks

LD1106011888 Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 10 TASS—On behalf of Pope John Paul II, Agostino Casaroli, secretary of state and prefect of the Council for the Public Affairs of the Church of the Vatican, conveyed greetings of the Roman church to Patriarch Pimen, the Holy Synod, bishops, priests and all the believers of the Russian Orthodox Church in connection with the millennium of the Baptism of Russia.

He spoke at a celebration ceremony in the Bolshoy Theatre held on the occasion of the Millennium of the Russian Orthodox Church.

According to Cardinal Casaroli, the presence at the ceremony of leaders of the state and representatives of many international organizations "is evidence of the unique importance of this event" which took place ten centuries ago on the banks of the Dnieper River and whose legacy "spread later across the Urals to northern Asia and up to the coast of the Pacific Ocean".

Cardinal Casaroli stated with satisfaction that in the course of the rejuvenation processes now under way in the USSR "The place and role of the church in society born of the 1917 October Revolution received here public and positive recognition".

The Vatican secretary of state pointed out the importance of this factor and said that it "gives rise to hope that the new atmosphere will bring new life to all the aspects of the relations between the Soviet state and religion in general".

Cardinal Casaroli expressed the desire "which undoubtedly is consonant with the hope cherished by all those present at the celebration ceremony on this happy hour: The desire that genuine and durable peace be established on the earth in fulfilment of the aspiration of peoples and of the task facing today all the people of good will".

TV Shows Millenium Celebrations

LD1206184688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1522 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Unscheduled program captioned: "Millenium of Christianity in Russia"]

[Text] [Presenter] Bells rang festively forth at St Daniel's Monastery today, welcoming those who took part in the festivities. The Divine liturgy—the main Christian service—and the solemn prayers to all the saints who have illumined the soil of Russia began at 1000. [video shows the monastery, crowds of believers, service] Their list consists of 1,460 names. The festivities in their honor call believers to spiritual asceticism for the benefit of one's neighbor and the whole of the Fatherland. The festivities took place under the open sky, in front of the

Church of the Trinity of St Daniel's Monastery. The service was celebrated by His Holiness Patriarch Pimen and members of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church. The festive service lasted 4 hours. Filaret, metropolitan of Minsk and Belorussia, recited a message from the local council to believers which says, among other things:

[Begin Filaret recording] It is with joy that we note the numerous appeals for spiritual growth that ring forth in our country. We ardently welcome the process of restructuring, called upon to rectify the negative consequences of the past and to safeguard for our society comprehensive development in the spiritual, social, economic, and political spheres of life. Throughout its 1,000-year history, the Russian Orthodox Church brought up the faithful in the spirit of patriotism and love of peace.

Patriotism manifests itself in a solicitous attitude toward the historical legacy of the Fatherland, in an active civic awareness that entails participation in the joys and tribulations of one's own people, in zealous and conscientious work, in taking care of the moral condition of society and of preserving nature.

And, concerned as it is to save the present and the future generations from annihilation, the Russian Orthodox Church calls upon its children not to weaken in their efforts to avert the universally destructive danger, so as to help the family of peoples in every way to usher in the 21st century on earth purged of the foul nuclear weapons. [end recording]

[Presenter] Guests—the highest dignitaries and representatives of churches from all over the world—spoke at the festivities. Closing the festivities Pimen, patriarch of Moscow and all the Russias, said:

[Begin Pimen recording] Dear brothers and sisters, I wish to greet you on this festive day of ours, on the anniversary of the millennium of the holy christening of Russia. Let the Lord grant you health and strength; may you always belong to the Russian Orthodox Church. [end recording]

[Presenter] Representatives of numerous religions came to take part in the anniversary festivities, since the introduction of Christianity in Russia became a portentous event in the Fatherland's history, European and world culture. At the decision of UNESCO, this festival is being widely marked in more than 80 of the largest Christian centers in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the United States.

Among foreign guests who came to our country for the festivities is a delegation from the Vatican. As far as its nature, the number and the high rank of the representatives from the Holy See and the Catholic Church are concerned, no such delegation has yet set foot on the soil of Russia. This is what Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Vatican's secretary of state, said:

[Begin Casaroli recording in French with superimposed Russian translation] From time immemorial, since the christening in Kiev and up to this very day, the Church has played an important role in the life of the Soviet Union, not just religious, but, above all, a cultural one. The events of 1,000 years ago have put your country among the most advanced states of that time and introduced it to European culture. And at present, as the glorious anniversary is being festively celebrated, we see the fruits—your people's outstanding successes in the area of science and culture—delighting the entire world. That is why, when today we mark the 1,000th anniversary of Russia's christening, we honor not only the Russian Orthodox Church, but also the results of its educational activities in the field of learning and, above all, of culture. [end recording]

[Presenter] The program of festivities devoted to the 1,000th anniversary of Russia's christening is an extensive and varied one. Art exhibitions, creative soirees, concerts of old Russian music and choir singing and meetings with poets and writers have been arranged specially, to coincide with this anniversary.

While not rejecting the scientific materialistic world view, the extensive dissemination of which among our people represents one of the Great October Socialist Revolution's victories, we should learn to see the ancient temples, ikons, psalms and in the material and spiritual monuments of history and culture not merely as religious objects, but also as the fruits of the toil, talent and mastery of the generations that have already traversed their earthly path.

[Begin recording] [K.M. Kharchev, chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, identified by screen caption] I think that at present, during the period of democratization and glasnost, during the period of restructuring, the relations between the Church and the state are normal, while the residue of an earlier period which our press discusses—and today discusses freely—is becoming more and more a thing of the past and, evidently—and within the framework of socialist pluralism, of which our party speaks at present—the existence of religious ideology, a sympathetic attitude to them, I mean to this ideology, evidently not only does not contradict our socialist principles, but fully corresponds to the reality in which we now live and in which we now carry out our restructuring and all our revolutionary transformations.

The normalization of relations between the Church and the state is reflected, above all, also in the fact that churches which had earlier been closed to believers are beginning to be returned more and more. And I can simply quote one figure for you: If throughout the entire past year 18 churches were returned to the Russian Orthodox Church, then in the space of only 5 months of this year almost 80 religious societies of the Russian Orthodox Church have been registered.

[Presenter] And what do you think—this process of interaction between the Church and the state—will it continue, or is it merely tied up with the times of today?

[Kharchev] I think that the viewpoint that this current attitude, I would say this benevolent attitude, toward the Church is merely conditioned by the fact that the Church is celebrating its millennium now, I think it is incorrect. Evidently the relations between the Church and the state will continue to improve further and it is precisely this benevolent attitude to believers that is at the basis of these relations and it is in this that the full freedom of conscience consists. [end recording]

Part of Kiev Sanctuary 'Handed Over' to Church

AU1306123188 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Jun 88 p 3

[RATAU report: "In Connection With the Millenium of the Baptism of Rus"]

[Text] The decision of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers to transfer a part of the Kiev Pecherskiy preserve to the Exarchate of the Ukraine was presented to Filaret, Patriarchal Exarch and Metropolitan of Kiev and Galich, on 7 June at a ceremony in the office of the Council for the Affairs of Religions under the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

In presenting the document, N.A. Kolesnik, chairman of the Council for the Affairs of Religions under the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, emphasized that the transfer was the manifestation of a realistic attitude on the part of the government on the religious question, of unity between word and deed with regard to the believers, of strengthening socialist legality in relations between the state and the church. In other words, this act was a reflection of restructuring presently taking place in all spheres of our society's life and activity.

He said that those things handed over for tenure to the Ukrainian Exarchate were in particular: the Remote Caves, two ancient churches, the Kovnirovskaya bell tower, a house for the custodian of the Remote Caves, four blocks of former cells, and some other facilities. A monastery will be established there. All these buildings are not simply monuments of ecclesiastical and monastic architecture, N.K. Kolesnik pointed out, but a historical and cultural heritage, a materialized link among generations, an object of our national pride.

In accepting the decision, Metropolitan of Kiev and Galich Filaret said:

"First of all I would like to express our gratitude to the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers for the decision which has indeed corroborated the reality of restructuring taking place in our country in regard to the church, as noted at Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting in the Kremlin with Patriarch Pimen and members of the Holy Synod. The handing over of a part of the Kiev Pechersk abbey is evidence that questions which we posed at the meeting with M.S. Gorbachev are being settled in deed. We also thank the all-union and the republic's Councils for the Affairs of Religions for understanding the needs of the Orthodox Church of Rus.

"The Kiev Pechersk abbey has been of great importance for us, not only because it is the cradle of Russian monasticism, but also because it is the place of origin of our chronicle, literacy, and other kinds of cultural activity that widely developed after the adoption of Christianity by the prince of Kiev, Vladimir. I think that good news about this event will quickly diffuse all over the world. The entire world will join us in rejoicing. I thank once again for this good deed for the Orthodox Church of Rus."

Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury and head of the Anglican Church, present at the ceremony, said that he was happy to participate in this event of importance not only for the Land of the Soviets, but also for all of Christendom. The abbey is a sacred place for all Christians. We also regard the act of handing over a part of the Kiev Pechersk abbey to the Orthodox Church of Rus, he emphasized, as a convincing example of restructuring taking place in the Soviet Union, as an example of the successful celebration of the millenium of Christianity in Rus. We are aware that the transfer is not simply a religious event. As is known, monks living at the abbey were working on the invention [izobretali] of book printing and created new kinds of art which helped stimulate their country's development and progress.

While traveling all over the world, archbishops have always been interested in new stories in order to pass them on to their creed, the guest said at the end. My visit here will be precisely the story that I will tell many Christians, which will also become great festive event for them.

Italian Paper on Ligachev Tolyatti Speech

PM1306092688 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 5 Jun 88 p 1

[Giulietto Chiesa dispatch: "Ligachev: 'We Are United on Perestroyka, But It Does Not Mean Pluralism and Market Economy'"]

[Text] Moscow—Yegor Ligachev has replied to Boris Yeltsin (though without naming him) and denied the existence of splits within the Politburo and Soviet leadership. At the same time, in a speech delivered in Tolyatti, he presented his own interpretation of restructuring and democratization, taking issue with the "advice" from the West which, if implemented, "would leave very little socialism remaining." "There are adversaries in the West (and some even among ourselves) who talk about alleged disagreements within the Soviet leadership," Ligachev added. "What can be said about this? First, that it is not the first time. In other words, it is a maneuver. To drive a wedge into the leadership is an old trick." However, "all the members of the leadership, headed by Gorbachev, are profoundly devoted to restructuring and take an active part in formulating the policy." Having dealt with the former Moscow party chief, Ligachev broached the controversy against "voices from abroad" that "want there to be a political opposition in the USSR and that are pushing us toward the idea of a multiparty system." "If we add to this the 'advice' to transform the economy in the direction of market principles," Ligachev stressed, "then not much socialism would remain." There are those who want to "weaken the country's stability," who encourage people to challenge social justice and who aim to cause a "profound stratification of Soviet society."

Ligachev's speech appears to contrast sharply with the prevailing tone heard during the Reagan-Gorbachev summit. Both points made by the authoritative Soviet leader appear to be addressed to people outside, as well as inside, the country. So too does the strong emphasis placed on the role of the party, whose renewal, Ligachev concludes, can have nothing in common with "the party's dilution within society." Such approaches "are unacceptable."

The impression is that while the existence of splits is denied, it is done only in connection with the "interpretation" of restructuring which—not coincidentally—does embody neither the democratization of Soviet society" [no opening quote marks, as published] nor the key watchword of the creation of a "socialist legal state" on which the party general secretary's arguments are based.

This interplay of stances had just been confirmed at the Moscow party plenum at which, laboriously and amid sharp disputes, the renewalists succeeded at the last moment in gaining acceptance of only a handful of prominent supporters of perestroyka, overcoming the evident hostility of the party apparatus. These signs seem to suggest a likely exacerbation of the debate before the party conference.

Yeltsin Election as Delegate Viewed

PM1306114488 Milan L'UNITA in Italian 7 Jun 88 p 9

[Giulietto Chiesa dispatch: "CPSU: Apparatus Imposes Ivanov, Rejected as Delegate by Grassroots"]

[Text] Moscow—Boris Yeltsin was elected as delegate to the 19th party conference for the city of Petrozavodsk, in the Autonomous Republic of Karelia, on 28 May. This was confirmed by telephone by an official of the local party committee, who also explained that Yeltsin's candidacy was put forward not by a grassroots organization by by the party obkom. In his capacity as a party Central Committee member, Yeltsin was assigned by the center to Petrozavodsk, just as all the other members were "distributed" among all the Soviet organizations to ensure their participation in the conference through their right to vote. It is of some political significance that the former Moscow first secretary was "assigned" for his election as deputy to a city other than Moscow or Sverdlovsk. In the former case the intention was to avoid spectacular protests and equally likely demonstrations of support. In the latter case a public debate would have been inevitable, though this seems to have occurred in any case. Indeed somebody within Sverdlovsk oblast's major consortium, "Uralmash," nevertheless put forward Yeltsin's name. It was turned down, however (it is not known whether this was for political reasons or precisely because it had already been decided that he would be elected by Petrozavodsk.) So the Yeltsin "mystery" continues, while details are emerging of the Moscow committee meeting that ended last Friday [3 June]. Some of those present have recounted the toughest parts of the debate directed against Yuriy Afanasev and Aleksandr Gelman, the former being elected despite the heavy attacks, while the latter was not even included in the list of 319 candidates for election. It seems, however, that there was no opposition to MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI Editor Yegor Yakovlev's candidacy. No official list has been published of the votes cast against the 319 elected in Moscow by secret ballot. All that is known, from a reliable source, is that Politburo member Yegor Ligachev had four votes cast against him. We met Sunday with Yuriy Karyakin, one of the eight intellectuals that the Moscow organization turned down and that nevertheless earned the definition of fighters for restructuring from Moscow number one Lev Zaykov. "This is the first time in 70 years that such a debate has been made public. It is an event of huge importance," Karyakin said. "The fact that I was not elected is not important. Nevertheless I must deplore our ingenuity. We have still not properly learned the potential of democracy. The public would have carried more weight if the discussion of candidates had begun earlier." "Nobody—neither Karyakin, nor the voters, nor Gorbachev—yet knows how things should be done. Only on the home front did people stir themselves. Be that as it may, we can thank Nina Andreyeva. What happened in March—her letter to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA—highlighted the dangers facing restructuring. Another 2 weeks and the result would have been different." One more question—this time concerning Ligachev. Does Karyakin believe that Yegor Ligachev represents a different policy line from Gorbachev's? "This is a question I was asked recently at a public debate in Leningrad. I will give you the same answer as I gave then. I am not acquainted with the discussions within the Politburo. I can only talk about what I see. Gorbachev is a leader who pays heed and seeks advice. Ligachev is a leader who issues orders and speaks an obsolete language."

The delegates issue is by no means over, however. On Sunday the weekly OGONEK exploded the Anatoliy Ivanov "bombshell" (as the weekly went to print the results of the Moscow plenum were not yet known.) Ivanov is editor of a journal known for its Stalinist and pro-Russian stances. The story is worth telling, if only briefly. Ivanov was elected as a delegate for Moscow.

This is how: The MOLODAYA GVARDIYA communist collective held a meeting—behind closed doors. It was attended by eight people (Ivanov was not present). Ivanov was unanimously elected as a candidate. The Kirovskiy rayon party committee met hastily on a Saturday (one wonders whether Yeltsin was quick enough to intervene) and elected first secretary Igor Golovkov and Anatoliy Ivanov as the rayon representatives. In effect nobody was consulted. Only the following Monday was there a meeting—"open" to non-communists—of the assembly of 17 Komsomol journals, attended by 158 journalists, 50 of them party members. It passed a vote of no confidence in Ivanov—"USSR State Prize winner, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy, and Hero of Socialist Labor"—with 143 against his candidacy, 10 in favor, and 6 abstentions. It was all to no avail, however. No less than five newspapers (KOMSOMOLSKAYA ZHIZN, ROVESNIK, TEKNIKA MOLODEZHIY, MOLODOY KOMMUNIST, and SELSKAYA MOLODEZH) introduced their own no confidence motions, with no result—apart from the pressure brought to bear on the 17 journals' party secretaries, who withdrew their signatures from the no-confidence motion [sentence as published]. The remaining 124 stood firm however, and signed the document.

For the record, Anatoliy Ivanov is the one who started the attack on Tvardovskiy's NOVYY MIR. It was he who, at a meeting of writers attended by Gorbachev, urged the party to adopt against writers repressive measures such as those used by Zhdanov in 1946. According to OGONEK, he "edits a paper in which what was written about Nina Andreyeva's well known letter can be read in every issue." How many delegates are like Ivanov and were elected as he was?

Further on Reorganization of Kazakh State Bodies

Ministries Reshuffled

LD0806090288 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 1400 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has resolved:

1. To establish the Kazakh SSR Union-Republican State Committee for Construction, based on the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Construction, the Kazakh SSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Kazakh SSR State Construction Committee, and the main territorial administration on construction in Alma-Ata city and Alma-Ata oblast attached to the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers.

2. That the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers should take the necessary organizational measures connected with this decree.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soivet Presidium has approved a decree on the establishment of the Union-Republican Kazakh SSR Ministry of People's Education, and on the abolition of the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Education, the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, and the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

Oblasts Abolished

LD0706102988 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 2305 GMT 7 Jun 88

[Text] Here follows several decrees of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

On the abolition of Mangyshlak and Turgay Oblasts of the Kazakh SSR:

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolves:

1. To abolish Mangyshlak Oblast and to join the rayons and towns of that oblast with Guryev Oblast. To abolish Turgay Oblast and join Amangeldy, Amantogay, Arkalyk, Dzhangildin, and Oktober Rayons and Arkalyk town with Kustanay Oblast. To join Derdzhavin, Yesil, Dzhaksy, Dzhanadala, and Kimya Rayons with Tselinograd Oblast.

2. That the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers should take the necessary organizational measures connected with the abolition of the said oblasts.

[Signed] Kamalidenov, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Nurpeyisov, secretary of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. City of Alma-Ata, 2 June 1988.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has established the Kazakh SSR Union-Republican State Committee for Culture, and has abolished the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Culture and the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Cinematography.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has resolved:

1. To establish the republican Kazakh SSR Ministry of Transport, and to abolish the Kazakh SSR Ministry of Motor Transport.

2. To instruct the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers to approve a list of enterprises, associations, and organizations to be placed under the Ministry of Transport of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium resolved:

1. To establish the republican Kazakh SSR Ministry of Gasification and Fuel. To abolish the Kazakh SSR State Committee on Gasification.

2. To instruct the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers to approve a list of enterprises, associations, and organizations to be placed under the Ministry of Gasification and Fuel of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that Comrade Manura Mergaliy-Kizy Akhmetova shall be appointed chairman of the Kazak SSR State Committee for Culture.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that Comrade Aleksandr Konstantinovich Tomashets shall be appointed Minister of Transport of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that Comrade Vladimir Aleksandrovich Putintsev shall be appointed Minister of Gasification and Fuel of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that comrade Kanat Besmirza-Ogly Savdabayev, first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Committee for Culture shall be appointed a Kazakh SSR minister [as heard].

Major Changes in Kirghizia Over Past 2 Years

LD1306092288 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Frunze June 13 TASS—"Representatives of the Communist Party of Kirghizia will report at the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference that in the past two years 80 per cent of leading party workers at all levels—from the Central Committee of the Communist Party to district committees—were replaced in party organizations of the republic," said Gennadiy Kiselev, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Kirghiz Communist Party.

In overwhelming majority of cases, all newcomers to the leadership ran in their work collectives before their election to their new posts and received a "vote of confidence", as it were, from working people. Besides, their candidacies were discussed at open party meetings. Therefore, those in whom people trust are among party workers today. They are not career functionaries who were leaders yesterday, but specialists—engineers, agronomists, factory workers and teachers.

However, this is not the only limit to changes in the personnel composition of leaders and party committee functionaries in Kirghizia. The national composition has become more varied, the average age of leaders also went down considerably. Now it has edged down on 40 years, whereas it stood at about 60 only two years ago.

Schools of reserve were set up at all regional, city and district party committees. In two years 2,200 people underwent a course of studies at them. However, not everything goes smoothly with us, as it seems, noted the central committee secretary. many leaders were replaced but the old style of leadership persists in some places. We are resolutely combatting it. It is especially difficult to overcome the habit of commanding.

"On the eve of the 19th All-Union Party Conference," said Gennadiy Kiselev in conclusion, "the Central Committee of the Communist Party receives many letters from Communists of the republic. They demand that glasnost (openness) and democratic procedures be used as wide as possible when promoting new people to party work. It is this way that we intend to follow in future."

Claim of Reactor Subsidence Denied

LD1306123788 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 6 Jun 88 p 3

[APN reporter Vitautas Mikulicius "Focus" article: The Reactor's Foundation Is Firm"]

[Text] In an article in SVENSKA DAGBLADET 26 April headlined "Sinking Nuclear Reactor in Lithuania?" Arkadijus Vinokur alleges on the basis of rumors circulating in this Soviet Baltic republic that the nuclear power station at Ignalina is built on an unstable foundation and that it is sinking. We asked power station head Anatoliy Khromchenko for his comments.

"One reason for these groundless rumors may have been the fact that the first reactor was shut down for a short time for a preventive inspection. Also nearly everyone must know that newly erected buildings do some initial settling. It is enough for one person to stamp on the ground for it to sink a little. So let me just give you the technical data.

"According to the norms for nuclear power station design, 300 mm is an acceptable amount of settling. Monitoring of the reactor foundation was begun as soon as the foundation was laid in 1980. By the time the reactor was commissioned in December 1983 the reactor had sunk 97 mm. A year later it had sunk a further 23 mm, then 12 mm in 1985, and only 4 mm in 1987. To date it has settled by 142 mm in all, which is less than half the permitted value.

"Ground conditions beneath reactors 2 and 3 are more or less the same as those under reactor 1. This has been confirmed by the monitoring. By the time of its startup the second reactor had sunk by 100 mm. During their first year of operation reactors 2 and 3 settled by a further 20 mm, that is, by less than reactor 1 during its first year in service. Despite the fact that the site had been chosen with the greatest care, it must be pointed out that further expert opinion was summoned and the site was judged satisfactory.

"As for the rumors that environmental pollution is threatening to lead to an accident, these are entirely groundless. Unfortunately the Western mass media take an active part in spreading these rumors," Anatoliy Khromchenko said.

Since the Chernobyl tragedy Soviet nuclear power experts have developed and introduced a number of measures which will rule out the very possibility of breakdowns, even those due to mistakes by personnel, as at Chernobyl.

In Ignalina a system has been installed which makes it possible to stop the reactor in a few seconds. There will be no fourth reactor, and also the existing three will not be operated at full capacity; they will be operated instead with a maximum output of 1,400 megawatts.

Vinokur is right that recently the general public in Lithuania has been engaged in a lively discussion of environmental questions in newspapers and on television and radio. But he selects—and bases his arguments on—rumors and unfounded emotional statements made by individuals and ignores the facts. He even claims that agricultural produce has been found to have a chemical content of 60 to 70 times the permitted levels. According to information from the Lithuanian Health Ministry, in 1987 3,589 food tests were carried out; the permitted levels of pesticides were exceeded in only 2.2 percent of them. Vinokur writes that the number of deformed children and the number of cases of food poisoning have increased. The Health Ministry has made an official announcement that there is nothing to confirm that this is the case.

The rumors about the sinking reactor are already past history. They have been replaced by rumors that the ozone layer directly over Lithuania is disappearing and that this summer a meteorite will fall in the Baltic and destroy all of the Baltic states! We shall see....

Daily Announces Current Radiation Parameters

AU0606161588 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 3 Jun 88 p 4

[Hydrometeorological announcement: "On the Radiation Situation"]

[Text] The Ukrainian republic-level hydrometeorogical administration announces that the radiation background in Kiev ranges between 0.015 and 0.023 milliroentgen per hour, in Zhitomir it amounts to 0.020, and in Chernigov 0.014 milliroentgen per hour.

Ukrainian Communist Party on Economic Reform

AU1306124588 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 10 Jun 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo recently listened to a report by Comrade V.A. Masol, Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers chairman, on the progress in implementing radical economic reform in the republic. The adopted decision notes that the work carried out by the republic's party committees, administrative and economic organs helps overcome negative tendencies in economic development, and provides conditions for stabilizing the work of branches, associations, and enterprises. Since the beginning of the 5-year period, the planned targets have been met practically for all basic indexes.

At the same time the decision emphasizes that, in the republic's economy, the process of restructuring has been slow, and that the necessary changes for the better still have not taken place in the main sectors.

The Central Committee Politburo has instructed the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers Presidium, the Ukrainian SSR Gosplan, ministries, departments, oblispolkoms, gorispolkoms, and rayispolkoms to more actively adopt new attitudes and methods of management, to persistently pursue the line aimed at the wide application of economic accountability within domestic production, various kinds of contracting, collective and individual labor activity, and to ensure that all problems concerning improvements in people's working and living conditions are settled.

Obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms have been instructed to intensify their influence on the progress of implementing the economic reform, and to more quickly master the entire range of new party-developed forms and methods of management.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and Council of Ministers have adopted an appropriate decision to implement the decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on the measures to reequip the light industry in 1988-95, and to ensure that problems concerning the satisfaction of the population's needs for goods are settled more rapidly.

The Central Committee Politburo session also adopted decisions on other issues concerning party life.

Ukrainian Commission Studies Ethnic Relations

LD1306110088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] The commission on matters of interethnic relations formed for the first time by the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Republic has begun work. At the microphone is the chairman of that commission, Deputy Leonid Makariyevich Kravchuk.

[Kravchuk] Representatives of more than 100 nationalities and ethnic groups live and work together in the Ukraine and the setting up of our commission is a very important step toward solving those problems that crop up in interethnic relations on a genuinely democratic basis and in the spirit of restructuring. As a start our commission intends to study and analyze the activity of the soviets of people's deputies in the Chernigov Oblast toward satisfying the social and cultural demands of the national minorities that live there. These are Moldavians, Hungarians, Romanians, Poles, and representatives of a number of other nationalities. Also in need of serious attention is the problem of the Crimean Tatars. As is well known, it has been acknowledged that there is no need to form an autonomy there but all restrictions limiting their rights have been lifted and it is essential to ensure in practice the equal rights they are guaranteed in all spheres of life: work, education—as are all representatives of other nationalities.

The problem of bilingualism is highly important for our republic. Public attention to this has increased and this testifies to a growth in national self-awareness. This problem is two-fold. On the one hand, the language native to each person should be protected and developed. Moreover, this should be done through expansion of the network of national schools, creating better textbooks for them, developing the national literature and culture, and the wide involvement of the intelligentsia and creative unions in this work. However, manifestations of chauvinism and nationalism and people like those who trying to propagandize what is called the Ukrainian Culturological Club must be resolutely rebuffed. On the other hand, children and young people of whatever nationality must be provided with just as good, confident, and, I would say, good quality mastery of Russian, which unites all nations and ethnic groups in our country as the language of interethnic communication. This problem, sadly, is as yet far from being solved.

In a word, our commission is faced with a wide and crucial range of activity. The main directions of that activity have already been set in the Theses of the CPSU Central Committee for the forthcoming 19th all-union party conference and its decisions will undoubtedly give precise guidelines for further practical deeds.

Authors Back Plan for Injured Soldiers' Center

LD0806124988 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] A group of prominent Soviet authors have supported the proposal of cultural activists on building a rehabilitation center for the soldiers injured while fulfilling their internationalist duty in Afghanistan. A Moscow bank has opened an account for donations. Many writers have been transferring royalties to the construction fund. A major recital is shortly to be held in the Soviet capital and the proceeds will also be transferred to the fund.

R. Medvedev on Reagan Moscow Speech to Writers

PM1206183588 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jun 88 p 1

[Historian R. Medvedev and Azerbaijan SSR Khachmasskiy Rayon Deputy Prosecutor E. Aliyev answer questions posed by V. Larin and M. Sokolov under the heading "Two Questions at the End of the Week: 1. What Events of This Week Have Pleased You? 2. What Events Have Pained You?"; date and place not given]

[Excerpt] Roy Medvedev, historian: [subhead]

Just now time is becoming so compressed that historians will be examining its course not in terms of months and weeks, but literally in terms of days. I was pleased by the fact that many worthy people have been elected delegates to the party conference. Under the former system of elections they would have not ended up as delegates. But I was pained by the fact that equally worthy people did not become delegates.

The CPSU Central Committee Theses for the party conference themselves also pleased me in some respects and pained me in others. But one has to realize that these are not dogma but a point of departure for discussion. It is gratifying that the discussion of them is proceeding on a broad and free footing. It is displeasing that at times the discussions have been organized somehow in too much of a hurry and not everyone is clear as to how their results will be taken into account.

I am summing up for myself the results of the visit to Moscow by President Reagan. I followed this event most attentively and commented on it for the U.S. NBC company and for Italian television, and I participated in the meeting with the President at the Central House of Writers. I was pleased that the meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere and that it changed Americans' notions about the Soviet Union and ours about President Reagan. But how simply, in my view, the President was able to gain the upper hand over his opponents in the public debates at the Moscow State University and at the Central House of Writers! How did it transpire that the speeches by the representatives of the Soviet intelligentsia were sometimes unconvincing, to put it mildly? No one ventured to crack a joke, to say something off his own bat, but instead read from a crib. Things were said which were not always comprehensible to the President and did not contain any profound political ideas. A representative of the cinema, for instance, complained of difficulties in mutual relations between the Goskino and directors, while an editor of a journal declared that he could not understand what socialism is, although he recommended that America build it a quickly as possible. Perhaps that was a joke? But no one understood it. I was also astonished by the words of a writer who suggested that R. Reagan and M. Gorbachev be placed on an icon to the right and to the left of Christ. No one, including the President, understood this bizarre phrase either.

Then Reagan spoke. And V. Karpov, first secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board, admitted that if this had been a speaking competition, the President would have won first place. But the trouble is, it was not a competition, but an ideological duel.

What pleased me personally? For the first time I have concluded a number of contracts with our Soviet publishing houses on the publication of my historical books. I have begun work on a new book—"A Political Portrait of L.I. Brezhnev."

Elbrus Aliyev, deputy prosecutor of Khachmasskiy Rayon, Azerbaijan SSR: [subhead]

What occupies me at the present time? Perhaps the most important is how to restore as quickly as possible an atmosphere of genuine internationalism in the republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia. The most basic thing here is not to give in to the provocations by extremists, to keep calm, display wisdom in resolving issues that are perturbing the nations. I was pleased by the recent meeting between the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia, Comrades A. Vezirov and S. Arutyunyan, on the the border of our republics. At one time these meeetings were traditional occurrences—the tradition must be revived. It is good that the new leadership of the republic has set a course toward restucturing, toward improving the economic and ideological spheres.

The difficulties with which the carrying out of resturing is being attended in the republic are alarming. It is now many months since we completed the indictment of I. Shaulov and also of V. Alyshev, a worker of the extradepartmental guard, for profiteering in fish. The prosecutor's office has also established illegal actions on the part of militia investigator A. Mamedov who was investigating this crime from the outset. The rayon court sentenced Alyshev and Shaulov and criminal proceedings have been instituted against investigator Mamedov. But the guilty parties began writing here there and everywhere and they got the republic's Suipreme Court to review Alyshev's case.

The rayon court left its decision unchanged and sentenced Alyshev anew. The Supreme Court once again set the sentence aside for totally incomprehensible reasons. The republic's prosecutor, convinced that the former militiaman's guilt was wholly proven, has repeatedly submitted protests to the Supreme Court. For how long will the passing of the case higher and higher up the chain continue and the poachers continue to find protection which we workers of the rayon and republic prosecutors' offices cannot understand? Yet as before hundreds of kilograms of valuable fish is being taken from the sea at night: Meanwhile the foot dragging goes on.... [passage omitted].

Police Chief Says TV Crew's Detention Illegal

LD1006203488 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] The Moscow police chief, Petr Bogdanov, has admitted his subordinates broke the law as they detained a national television film crew. The crew was making a report about amateur artists painting a building in Moscow without the permission of the local authorities.

In an interview for the newspaper MOSCOW PRAVDA, General Bogdanov said there had been no grounds for taking the crew to a police precinct. He assured the journalists all arbitrary actions by the legal bodies would be punished.

Health Official Updates AIDS Statistics

LD1006155688 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 10 TASS—"According to the latest statistics, only one Soviet citizen suffers from AIDS and 57 are AIDS carriers. Although the latter figure is slowly growing (there were 33 AIDS carriers at the beginning of the year), there are no grounds to believe that the situation is becoming dangerous", Mikhail Narkevich, head of the Main Department of Quarantine Infections of the USSR Ministry of Public Health, has said in an interview with the TASS correspondent Eleonora Sutotskaya. He said that all those people belonged to the so-called risk groups, including people whose behaviour is characterized by sexual promiscuity.

Narkevich recalled that three grave AIDS cases, all of them foreigners, had been registered earlier in the USSR. All of them had died. No other cases of this type have been registered. 270 AIDS carriers were found among foreign nationals. These are mostly young people who came to the USSR to study.

"We know well the world AIDS statistics, and we are doing our best to keep the situation in the USSR under control. A state anti-AIDS program is being implemented in this country. 380 diagnosing laboratories have been opened which make over 1.5 million analyses a month. By the end of the year the number of such laboratories will exceed 1,000. Blood tests are taken from donors, people who worked abroad for a long time, drug addicts and homosexualists. The decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme soviet on preventive measures against AIDS infection proved to be effective. Specifically, it permits timely medical examination of people from risk groups. Anonymous control has also been introduced".

Some 40 research centers study the AIDS problem in the USSR. They develop medecinal preparations and conduct fundamental research. National methods of AIDS diagnosing have been developed and are being improved.

"Soviet specialists believe that it is possible to effectively combat AIDS only by joint efforts of scientists and experts from various countries. This is why we are actively developing international cooperation in this sphere, support programs of the World Health Organization on this subject and work jointly with our colleagues from socialist countries, West Germany, Britain, India, Malta and other countries", Mikhail Narkevich said.

Competition for General Secretary Proposed

AU1406123088 Paris AFP in English 1215 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Moscow, June 14 (AFP)—A letter in a Soviet daily Tuesday called for more than one candidate to stand for election as the party's general secretary and members of the ruling Politburo, in a radical break with traditional policy.

The letter from V. Mezhzherin, a teacher from Kiev University's Zoology Department, said in the "suggestions" column of the daily SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA that the Central Committee or a party congress, the supreme party instance which meets every five years, "should advance several candidates for the post of general secretary." This should also apply to the Politburo, he said.

The letter said that the party's top leaders should be elected by the country's party members. At present, the general secretary is elected by the Politburo, which is in turn elected by the policy-making Central Committee. [passage omitted]

Resolution 'at Variance' With Gorbachev Demands

PM0506144988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Jun 88 Second Edition p 5

[Letter from A. Oreshkov, chairman of Smolensk Oblast's Sychevskiy Rayispolkom, under general rubric "Polemical Platform" and general heading "We Discuss the CPSU Central Committee Theses"]

[Text] More Glasnost! [main subhead]

What About the Law? [subhead]

I have read the CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On the Organizational Work of the Kurgan Oblast Party Organization in the Social Development of the Countryside," which was published in PRAVDA, with close attention. In my opinion, in a number of places it is at variance with the spirit of M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the Central Committee Feburary plenum in which he stated that in a sense we are today talking about the need to revive the power of the soviets in the Leninist understanding of the term. The Central Committee Theses state: "It is necessary to prevent the adoption of party committee resolutions which contain direct instructions to state and economic organs and social organizations."

The criticism leveled in the resolution at the Kurgan party obkom for not making the necessary demands on local soviets which occupy a passive position in the reorganization of the countryside also conflicts with Article 2 of the USSR Constitution on people's power, and with Lenin's thesis about the leadership of the soviets through the Communists who work in them. There is no mention of these in the resolution, which says further: "In connection with the serious shortcomings in the work of local soviets in the social development of the countryside, it is necessary to recommend to the RSFSR Council of Ministers and the Kurgan CPSU Obkom that the question of strengthening the leadership of the oblast soviet by the oblispolkom be considered.

This seems to me to mean that the practice of ispolkoms affecting the leadership of soviets—which was denounced by the 27th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums—is to continue in the future. And what I do not understand at all is why the RSFSR Council of Ministers should strengthen the leadership of the Kurgan Oblispolkom? According to the 25 May 1980 USSR Law "On the Basic Powers of Kray, Oblast, Autonomous Oblast, and Autonomous Okrug Soviets of People's Deputies" this right belongs exclusively to the Kurgan Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, which according to the USSR and the RSFSR Constitutions is the organ of state power in the oblast and not an administration of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

A. Oreshkov, chairman of Smolensk Oblast's Sychevskiy Rayispolkom.

Theses Solve Main Problems in Party Mechanism

LD1206134088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0800 GMT 12 Jun 88

["We Discuss the Theses of the 19th All-Union Party Conference" program, presented by unidentified announcer with Ivan Ivanovich Antonovich, pro-rector of the Academy of Social Sciences under the CPSU Central Committee and doctor of philosophy—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Antonovich] The democratic construction, which will be continued and strengthened by our conference, is not something that is coming into being upon a bare spot: It is continuing the best traditions of socialist democratism. Take the problem of electing the best people. In our discussions we sometimes forget to analyze these questions in an all-round way. What I would like to do now is express a thesis and provide foundation for it. In my view our problems lie not in the election of people but in the regular replacement of people who are in power. During the whole tragedy of the personality cult and in the whole marasmus of stagnation, the issue was not the fact that the party had elected these particular people to these offices. The fact is that the mechanisms of democracy did not start to work in order to remove them from power when the incompatibility of Stalin's personal interests with the requirements of socialist development in the eighties became obvious. It is all very complicated.

We cannot say that the party did not try to deprive Stalin of power at the end of the twenties and the beginning of the thirties. We know that such attempts were made. The party lost that fight. Defeat in struggle is not the party's fault, it is the party's misfortune. The mechanism for the regular transfer of power did not function. We cannot say that the party acted badly in 1964 when it removed a leader who at that time I would say was showing an inclination for indulging in empty talk, unrealistic plans, harebrained schemes, and even some adventurism. That's not the point. The point is that when Leonid Ilich Brezhnev became ill and ceased to perform his functions in a normal manner, the party turned out not to have any mechanism for removing him from the post of general secretary.

In my view the idea of two terms in power for any elected official which has been set down in the Theses solves the main problem. It brings into operation in our democratic institutions—be they party, local soviet, or public—the idea of a regular transfer of power from individual to individual, and so will put an end to a considerable extent the possibility of repeating the mistakes, the tragedies, and indeed the crimes of the past. I therefore take a very optimistic view of our conference. I am convinced that these specific measures to democratize internal party and state life will be the main valve through which the inexhaustible spring of people's initiative and talent will pass on its way to the management of public affairs. I should like straightaway to make the point that my optimism tries to cling to the soil of reality. I am convinced that the conference cannot be the generation of words for display purposes. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Ivan Ivanovich, don't you think that recently it's become almost a rule that in order to strike the right note, one should continuously criticize everything? I think that criticism is often being turned into fault-finding and carping.

[Antonovich] There is indeed a lot of criticism, but while there is a lot it's probably inadequate. As far as the public reading of the Theses is concerned, therein lies the strength of our new stage—in the fact that everyone has his own version of the Theses, rather than one version for all. I'm a little embarrassed, it's true, by criticism of the Theses when comrades of standing appear on your medium—television—saying that the theses are too general in character. As though Theses could be specific in character! That's the whole point: The overall political, overall theoretical, and overall intellectual tendencies of democratism have now been marked out and the task is to develop them into specific systems.

Take the thesis dealing with the legal state. In the context of this conference this is revolutionary, but it is general. Indeed, for it to become specific, a completely new system of legislation is required; a reform of the law is required; enormous work in making it specific.

I am, in fact, worried by another aspect of criticism: People who complain about democracy have now made their appearance in the press, on radio and television, and in conversation. Quite honestly it isn't at all interesting to listen when someone, for example, who has turned out not to be elected to the conference says that there is no democracy. It turns out that they have only understood democracy as being democracy for themselves and not for everyone. And when they are not elected, then that is where democracy ends as far as they are concerned. Here we all have to learn about democracy; it takes a long time and it's hard work, because democracy is both the right to be elected and also the obligation to accept the results of the democratic election process. There's no shame in not being elected. It means one is not elected at that particular moment and one has to be able to accept the will of the majority. This is a huge piece of learning and we all have to go through it. Quite frankly, those who are now complaining that there is no democratism, therefore, merely because they have not been elected, do not produce the best impression as far as I am concerned. [passage omitted]

Economist on Party Conference Theses

LD0606083188 Moscow Television Service
in Russian 1430 GMT 5 Jun 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Discussion of the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th party conference is continuing throughout the country. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Sinitsyn has interviewed Gevgeniy Ashakovich Ambartsumov, head of department in the Economics of World Socialism Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, in this regard.

[Begin Recording] [Sinitsyn] How do you perceive the Theses as a whole?

[Ambartsumov] I am very pleased. I consider it to be a profoundly democratic document, primarily because it reflects to a very high degree those positive suggestions which were expressed during preparations for the conference. Secondly, it provides sufficient freedom for corrections—it leaves some questions open; evidently they will be resolved in a more precise manner during the conference itself. The last thing I should like to say in this connection is that the very tone is profoundly democratic and in the restructuring vein. Only yesterday I was talking with a Spanish journalist from the major EL PAIS newspaper, who asked anxiously whether a compromise, a political compromise, had been reached between the champions and opponents of restructuring. To judge from the Theses, this has not occurred. There is no political compromise; restructuring has gained the upper hand. The position of Nina Andreyeva can be said to have been conceptually rejected.

There are a few issues which seem to me to require further development. There is a very important clause whereby the party in fact places itself within specific bounds, in accordance with the Constitution, and obliges all party organizations to act within the framework of the Constitution and the laws. Furthermore, it says that the adoption by party committees of decisions containing direct instructions to state and economic bodies and public organisations should be ruled out. However, it is well known that interference by party leaders in everyday operational work occurs not by way of specific decisions, but simply, as the saying goes, by telephone law; instructions are given, you cannot yet away from them. I think this clause in the text of the Theses shold be accompanied by directions on strict sanctions, right up to dismissal from one's post and party investigations, as far as expulsion from the party for interference by party organs in the operational work of economic and other organizations.

It is very important that the role of the soviets is being enhanced, and, properly speaking, Lenin's slogan, All power to the soviets, should be implemented. But I think that the opportunity for deputies to work properly, to devote all their energies to precisely this political work will be of very great significance. In connection with this, the question arises—and mention is made of this here, both of the duration of office [changes thought] of the duration of the sessions, inter alia of the Supreme Soviet, and that the discussion of these questions which will be posed at the session will take on a bussiness-like and not a ceremonial character. [sentence as heard] The last session strengthened this business-like character, but even so, an element of the ceremonial in everything—unanimous voting and so forth, prevailed. But at the end of the day it is people on the move who cover the distance [dorogu osilyat idushchiye]. I think that what we have proposed, put forward, and have still not fully done—we have still done very little over these past years—is a very great deal. [end recording]

Non-Party Member Submits Proposals

WA18120081 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 21, 29 May-5 Jun 88 p 2

[Letter from Natalya Morozova under the rubric "Letters to the Editor":"Though I'm Not a Party Member"]

[Text] I have a proposal: to introduce a clause into the Rules of the CPSU making it obligatory for a person being admitted into the Party to first receive recommendations from a meeting of the work collective, along with the usual recommendations.

If an offence has been committed by a non-Party member, it is discussed by the whole collective, but if the offender is a member of the Party, he is dealt with at a closed Party meeting, or even at a meeting of the Party bureau, as if they don't want to tell non-Party people the whole truth about the guilty Communist.

We non-Party people are also hurt by the advantage CPSU members enjoy in obtaining information. Why are some Party documents, even those which are of relevance for the whole of society, read only at closed Party meetings?

I think that the very concept of "closed" meetings has long been outdated. Today it is simply a social anachronism.

Now about privileges. A non-Party member is put on trial in accordance with the law, a CPSU member is sometimes punished first "along the Party line", often with no further steps taken.

Sometimes, when criminal proceedings are instituted against a member of the CPSU, he is expelled from the Party, even before court hearings. So the person sitting in the dock is no longer a Party member. I think this is incorrect, as it violates the presumption of innocence concept. Expulsion from the Party before court hearings means that the Party bodies already consider the person guilty, but what if he was only a victim of slander? Would he be reinstated? Yes, but the whole thing is still very humiliating.

The top Party leadership has been doing much to overcome the problems piled up over decades, and we want to do everything to help the Party in this formidable undertaking. After all we non-Party people are also to blame in many respects. Haven't many or us, through our habit of revering the higher-ups, through our readiness to declare any word uttered from on high as gospel, contributed to this atmosphere of servility, to this false image of infallibility?

But the paradox is—how can we try and help in practical terms? I, let's say, disagree with certain statements by some Politbureau members, including the General Secretary. How can I convey this? By writing a letter? By voicing my views in the press? But no editor will accept this kind of material from me.

Perhaps it would be advisable to adopt some document or law guaranteeing the mass media freedom of criticism regardless of whether the target is a Politbureau member or anyone else. It is quite possible that, at first, such criticisms will be too timid or, on the contrary, too loud. That's all right, in the final analysis we shall find a way of dealing with exaggerations and extreme views. But with reservations and all these limitations we shall never extricate ourselves from the morass.

Natalya Morozova

(Moscow)

Conference Must Pave Way for Congress

PM1006115188 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 9 Jun 88 p 3

[Article by Doctor of Philosophical Sciences V. Trushkov, member of the CPSU since 1965, under the rubric "19th All-Union Conference: Perusing the CPSU Central Committee Theses": "Nowhere To Retreat to, Stagnation Is Past"]

[Text] There was no official opening to the party debate this time, and it began long before the publication of the Central Committee Theses for the 19th all-union party conference.

The people and the party are expecting the conference to carry out a searching analysis of restructuring, make principled assessments of the role played in it by everyone who has been placed in charge of it (not only of leading collective bodies, but individual assessments as well), make mature decisions, and provide reliable guarantees of democracy and glasnost.

If I had to answer the question what do I expect from the 19th all-union party conference, I would reply: A congress.

In my reply I am not being disrespectful toward the party conference, nor do I doubt that it will be successful and significant. I am pinning enormous hopes on it for an acceleration of restructuring—just as much as any member of the party, as any incorrigible optimist. But it seems to me that in the past 2 years many questions have accumulated that lie outside the conference's jurisdiction, which it does not have the authority to tackle. Here are two hypotheses. First, the conference could elevate (constitute, to use legal language) its status to the level of a congress. It is true that it would then have to widen the range of questions for discussion to include the traditional congress matters—amendments to the CPSU Statutes and election of party central bodies. The party has had conferences of this kind. The celebrated Prague 6th and April 7th Conferences elected entirely new Central Committees and the 18th all-union party conference in 1941 considerably expanded the membership of central bodies. Questions relating to the Statutes were discussed at the 8th and 12th conferences.

The second option is to decide to convene the next, 28th party congress. No, not an extraordinary congress, convened to tackle some very important, specific issue, but a routine one—with a Central Committee accountability report, with a discussion of the shape of the next 5-year plan, with amendments to the Statutes and elections. And the Central Committee could, of course, broaden the range of questions if necessary.

But the principal question today is: Democratization is the political essence of the current restructuring. The party's task is to involve ever greater masses of the working population in the utilization of democratic rights and freedoms and to widen the material potential of this. There will not be more democracy in our society than there is in intraparty life.

We admit that there are exactly as many violations and restrictions of democracy in the party today as are perpetrated by us, Communists. Ilich told us: "All the members of the party, on an equal basis and without exception, conduct, directly or through representatives, all the affairs of the party."

The state of intraparty democracy depends to a crucial extent on the quality of party ranks.

And concerns about intraparty democracy and about protecting our ranks from careerists and rogues are closely interrelated. Democracy can do without people who try to worm their way into the party. They are after the ranks and offices that democracy prevents them from achieving. So the careerists and bureaucrats are constantly attacking democracy. Do we have a strong defense against them? Or are we surrendering position after position? In fact, there was Lenin's behest: "Communist parties in those countries where Communists are operating legally must carry out periodic purges (reregistration) of party organization personnel in order to systematically purge the party of the petty bourgeois elements who are bound to worm their way in."

The Central Committee Theses provide for precongress certification of Communists. But it must not be merely an isolated episode. Incidentally, a number of fraternal parties have accumulated a wealth of experience of annual reregistration. What is stopping us having a regular clearout, although we have renounced mass purges? One obstacle, perhaps, is the fact that the apparatus is not interested, if only because it will mean extra work.

The practice of electing leading party bodies is also defective. Remember how many candidates are nominated for party committees or bureaus—exactly as many as have to be elected. This is very convenient: Unanimity is almost assured. Not even the wildest imagination could picture a situation where one of the nominees was not elected. The thing is that Article 24 of the CPSU Statutes envisages what is ostensibly a very democratic norm: Anyone who obtains more than half of the vote is deemed elected. In fact, this means that there is no point in putting forward extra candidates so that Communists are able to choose: No one will be turned down, the elective body will merely be bigger.

The Theses propose that henceforth elections to all party bodies will be held on a competitive basis. While backing this proposal, I would note that it will become effective when the corresponding changes are made to the CPSU Statutes.

Echoes of Stalinist disregard for intraparty democracy and the desire to identify the party committee with the apparatus have lingered for too long, unfortunately. A hired body, the apparatus is inevitably a strictly hierarchical, administrative system, because the hired official always reports exclusively to the hirer, who is on the next step up on the official ladder.

Today's elective party committees are effectively collegiums of apparatchiks. It is not the most authoritative party people, but holders of authoritative posts who are nearly always elected. It is difficult to genuinely and accurately express the will and aspirations of workers and peasants if their representatives are in an absolute minority on party committees. For example, workers and kolkhoz members constituted 5 percent of the Central Committee members elected at the congress before last, the 26th, and 10 percent of the Central Committee candidate members, and 20 percent of the Central Auditing Commission members. At the same time, nearly two-thirds of the Central Comme members and more than half of the candidate members of the Central Committee and members of the Central Auditing Commission had never been either workers or kolkhoz members. To be frightened that workers may not be able to make competent social decisions is not to have faith in one's people.

Is it not time to completely carry out Lenin's historic behest? Increase the Central Committee membership by bringing in workers (remember that in 1922 there were only 18 Central Committee members). "Workers joining the Central Committee must be...predominantly not workers who have served for a long time in soviets (in this part of my letter I always include peasants among workers), because certain traditions and certain prejudices which it is desirable to combat have already developed in these workers."

As for the number of Central Committee members and candidate members, is it not excessive? Obviously, in any collegium of 300-400 people (candidate members on top of that) two unequal parts are bound to emerge: One that actually tackles issues, the other that votes. Incidentally it was in the years we now call the stagnation years that the Central Committee membership swelled to such proportions. Here too, one should probably get closer to what Lenin intended.

In fact it is to the congress rather than the conference that the numerous proposals are addressed relating to the revival of the Central Control Commission, which would be subordinate neither to the Central Committee nor to any other body, but would be elected by the congress on a par with them. This was Lenin's idea. And the Bolsheviks saw the Central Control Commission as the conscience of the party.

But the party's supreme arbiter was abolished. So is it not time to rectify this gross error! This task would scarcely be solved by combining the Central Auditing Commission and the Party Control Committee, as is suggested in the Theses. Indeed, the Central Control Committee would have control not only of the individual party members, but of all party instances, including the Politburo, the Secretariat, and the general secretary. That was Lenin's behest.

To develop democracy we need a sober and realistic assessment of what has been achieved. This relates in particular to the description of economic relations. However, Article 15 of the USSR Constitution says that "the supreme goal of social production under socialism is to satisfy as fully as possible people's growing material and spiritual needs." But the full satisfaction of needs is the same as distribution according to needs. So why, in the Constitution, which enshrines victories won and real social ties, ascribe to socialism something that is inherent only in the highest phase of communist society? If we have achieved that level of distribution, why are we talking about democracy at all? V.I. Lenin convincingly demonstrated that under communism democracy, like political life in general, will simply fade away. And commodity relations, which we intend to develop, would be incompatible with our state's Basic Law, given constitutional formulas of that kind. I think the 19th party conference would have to initiate the process of overcoming such inconsistencies. This, in particular, is what the Central Committee Theses are geared to.

This document envisages enhancing the role of labor collective councils. But is it not time to answer the question whether they are uniform with soviets? The answer will certainly be in the affirmative if one recalls the history of the emergence and the very nature of the first worker soviets. But if so, then the labor collective councils will have to be incorporated in the system of organs of soviet power, their relationship with local soviets will have to be established, and the principle of the sovereignty of the soviets will have to be extended to them once and for all. And in this case the conference decisions could be decisive.

And can one really avoid the question of the machinery for recalling elected representatives? It is equally relevant for party bodies, for soviets, and for public organizations. Restructuring has added elected economic leaders and labor collective councils to this list. V.I. Lenin taught that no assembly or institution can consider itself democratic unless the masses can easily recall any elected representative or official. We must not forget this democratic demand today. But, apparently, we are forgetting it. Reserve deputies have appeared in multiseat okrugs. They say this is the virtue of experiment. In one way, maybe so. But under this system it is not feasible to replace a deputy since even when they have recalled an unsuitable deputy voters are not able to replace him with a new one: The vacant place is automatically occupied by a reserve deputy, who does not entirely lack their confidence, but has not been given their complete approval. This problem will also have to be unraveled by the 19th all-union conference.

But no matter how wide the range of democratization problems might be, the chief ones are associated with amendment of the CPSU Statutes and election of leading party bodies—the Central Committee and the Central Control Committee. But these are congress problems. Maybe it is good that they will be raised and discussed this summer, but no final decisions will be made. The main thing is not to brush them aside, put them on ice. For that reason a decision is needed on convening the 28th CPSU Congress.

An extra year of precongress preparation would be very useful for the party: The more we become accustomed to extensive democracy, the better the decisions on democracy will be. In the end, as Gorkiy's hero said, rights are not given, rights are taken. At the moment we are only learning to take them. For instance, the election of delegates to the 19th all-union party conference is proceeding much more democratically than even at the 27th party congress. There the delegates were elected by oblast conferences, and by them alone. Today their candidates are also being discussed in labor collectives. But by no means all oblast and city party organizations saw fit to carry out the Central Committee recommendation put foward by General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev: Publish in the local press a list of candidate delegates and discuss it in primary organizations.

It is a difficult task mastering the science of democratization that was recently called socialist pluralism. It is time to clearly recognize that it is no sin and cannot be a sin to have a different opinion and the only crime for a Communist is apostasy from socialism. Lenin's advice is very relevant today: "In such fiendishly difficult conditions, one must not see people with different opinions or different approaches in terms of 'intrigue' and 'counterweight,' but value independent people." We are learning this Leninist science. By and large we are approving of the "dissidence" of N. Bukharin, A. Rykov, M. Tomskiy, N. Krestinskiy, and Kh. Rakovskiy.... We intend to revise former assessments of the dissident views of G. Zinovyev, L. Kamenev, L. Pyatakov, G. Sokolnikov, K. Radek, and dozens of others. At the same time, one does not always have the ability to separate a Communist's different views from political errors, and this is also part of the democratization "training program." Examinations in this subject are always difficult. The party believes that the party conference will show the way to pass these examinations. But it is already under way. Communists and all Soviet people are addressing it in brief notes in newspapers and in lengthy articles. The unstoppable wheel of socialist democracy is spinning faster and faster. It has nearly reached the "19th all-union" mark. The arrow pointing to the congress is clearly visible from there.

Idea of Party Monitoring Body Welcomed

PM0306151588 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 1 Jun 88 p 2

[Letter from M. Morskoy, CPSU member, under the heading "Greater Democracy, Greater Creativity"]

[Text] It is very good that a document has appeared which designates the subjects to be discussed by Communists at the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference!

Pluralism of opinions and the open contrasting of ideas and interests have undoubtedly given people an opportunity to not simply reveal their intellectual and moral potential but also to considerably enrich and develop that potential. People are standing up straight before our eyes. There is no question that restructuring is gathering momentum. But to my mind it is still too early to say that all social forces are consolidating on its platform. Unfortunately, the vast administrative apparatus as a whole is still a long way from taking a firm, principled stand for restructuring.

But this apparatus is a considerable force which determines a very great deal in our life. That is why one can only welcome the demand contained in the Theses that full power be given to the soviets. I also feel it is essential to rule out the election of representatives of the administrative apparatus to any leading party bodies or control bodies.

I would like to say a few words about the Leninist principle of democratic centralism. I believe that with the responsibility to implement decisions, freedom of discussion must be ensured not only when considering the issue but also in the preparatory stages. The CPSU Central Committee Theses are an example of precisely this kind of democratic discussion. I am confident that a considerable number of valuable proposals will be made in the time remaining before the conference. But I have an observation to make.

It is quite unclear how the Central Committee is to be renewed in the period between congresses. I think that if we are to guarantee democratic norms and increase responsibility at election time, the question of Central Committee membership must only be decided at congresses. If this had been so, perhaps we would not now be mourning N. Bukharin or other comrades and thinking agonizingly about the future. The Theses are right to raise the question of creating a mechanism to guarantee against any corruption of the Leninist principles of leadership. In this respect, there is no doubt that the organization of a unified control body could help—we must do our utmost to achieve this. But it is only necessary to ensure that, apart from these functions which it is planned to entrust to it, the control body is mainly responsible for monitoring the observance of democratic norms and the principle of collective leadership in all elected leading party bodies, including the CPSU Central Committee (without interfering in their activity).

M. Morskoy, member of the CPSU, Moscow.

Official on Changes to Soviet Electoral System

LD1306091688 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—"There are no doubts that the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, which convenes in Moscow late this month, will discuss among other problems the problem of perfecting the election system in the USSR, which is also mentioned in the Theses of the CPSU Central Committee. This system is the most criticized democratic institution of the country today. And it is, probably, only fair that a lack of democratism, characteristic of the administrative command system, manifested itself most graphically in our election practice. Therefore the question is raised of renewing the mechanism of forming the elective bodies of power," said Yuriy Korolev, head of a department of the Secretariat of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. He answered question from TASS news agency on ways of democratization in the country's election system.

To begin with, Korolev said, democratization has already started. "Let us remember, for example, the election experiment, new priniciples in nominating candidates to deputies, the practice of wide-scale pre-election discussion of candidates. All this has been already tested in the course of last year's elections to local soviets. But this is only a beginning."

"Speaking about ways of perfecting the system, let us recall what it is being mainly criticised for. First, the very possibility of electing is actually missing at the elections, because ballots as a rule carry one name. Second, the false results of voting: The 1000 per cent of yes votes, of course, does not reflect the actual situation. Third, excessive overorganisation during elections when the voter is often denied the chance to express his will. And, finally, voters practically do not know their candidates to deputies or know them little, and vice versa.

"The reform of election system will proceed along these main directions, prompted by the just criticism. Relevant documents are being currently drafted at the supreme bodies of state power with the participation of academics and specialists. Its contents will, of course, reflect the results of debates at the forthmcoming 19th all-union party conference.

"It is too early to speak about specific provisions of the future system. However, it will be hard to imagine it without a new approach to nominating candidates to deputies being included. It will, probably, exclude nomination according to 'the post one holds' or to the principle of 'proportional representation', because elected are not simply representatives of people but exponents of their views, opinions and will. This is not one and the same thing. I think election ballots will carry two and maybe more candidates. Organisation of the work of deputies, Soviets on the whole, must become different. They will receive the opportunity to give more time to state affairs by extending sessions and improving the work of deputy commissions.

"We will soon learn about it," Yuriy Korolev concluded. By spring next year, when the term of office of the current Supreme Soviet of the USSR expires and new elections will be announced, cardinal changes, probably, will take place in the Soviet election system."

Historian Dashichev on Party Reforms

AU0806170688 Sofia NARODNA MLADEZH in Bulgarian 7 May 88 p 3

[Report on telephone interview with Professor Vyacheslav Dashichev, doctor of historical sciences, in Moscow by unnamed NARODNA MLADEZH reporter in Sofia: "The CPSU Central Committee Theses—Guarantees for Restructuring"; date not given]

[Text] The preparations for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference are in their final stage. The election of delegates who will represent the 20-million strong army of Soviet Communists at the conference has been concluded. The Theses of the CPSU Central Committee that will be discussed at the high-ranking party forum have been submitted to nationwide debates and this discussion evokes tremendous interest all over the world.

How is this exceptionally important document evaluated in the Soviet country? We made a telephone call to Moscow asking Professor Vyacheslav Dashichev, doctor of historical sciences and chief of department at the Economics of the World Socialist System Institute affiliated with the USSR Academy of Sciences, a distinguished Soviet scholar, for a brief statement on the subject. This is what he said:

The main task of the Theses that will be submitted to the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference is to give a powerful impetus to the entire political system in Soviet society, including the party, which is the leading force in our society. It is a question of actively involving the working people in state administration and management, as well as in the country's economic activities, and open vast opportunities for the people's initiative. The conference should introduce totally new elements in the structure and activities of the party and in the principles on the basis of which the further work of the CPSU should develop.

The basic postulates of the Theses strictly determine the party's functions as a political and ideological vanguard of Soviet society, separating them from the functions of the state, of administrative, economic, and executive organs. The party should by no means substitute these organs in their activities. The principles of the eligibility and removability of cadres, which were widely practiced within the party at Lenin's time, are being consistently revived today. Secretaries of party committees at all levels will be elected by secret vote, while several candidates will be nominated for one post. A strict accountability to one organ—namely the Central Control-Auditing Commission—has also been introduced. This organ should exert real control over the work of each party member, so that no violations of the principles and norms of party life should be committed. This is a guarantee against the revival of any element of personality cult whatsoever.

Importance is attached to the democratization of the entire political system in our country. The soviets, according to Lenin's intentions, are the basis of the political system in our state. However, under Stalin's rule their place and role in society became pure formality and their task was reduced to the final confirmation of decisions adopted by the executive organs. This resulted in a total distortion of the essence of soviets as self-government organs of the people. The soviets today, on the basis of democratic principles, are filling their activities with real substance and are becoming genuine organs of the people's power.

In this manner democratization and the unmistakable differentiation between party, state, and economic functions will make it possible to eliminate interference of raykoms and party organs in the economic work of enterprises and kolkhozes. The labor collectives of the enterprises, kolkhozes, and cooperatives are thus becoming considerably independent.

Getting acquainted with the CPSU Central Committee Theses inspires all Soviet people with the hope that restructuring will further proceed in this direction, precisely, and that socialism on a qualitatively new level will be created, which will provide opportunities for the satisfaction of the social needs of every individual, and will contribute to the comprehensive development of all our society along the path of social, political, cultural, and technical progress.

Burlatskiy on 'Freedom of Conscience' Law

LD0706040088 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 6 Jun 88

[Text] [Announcer] The need to complete the USSR's creation of socialist legality is one point in the platform issued by the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party in preparation for its 19th national party conference. Our correspondent asked for an explanation from the director of the Institute of State and Law of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Vladimir Kudryavtsev:

[Kudryavtsev recording in Russian heard in background] We feel this way: There is a state run by laws, a state that bears responsibilities to its citizens, where citizens bear responsibility to society. It is such a state in which all the legal, social, and political guarantees have been created for the freedom of the people, for expressing human rights. For lawyers this is highly important, said the director.

[Announcer] It is common knowledge that in the legal guarantees of human rights and laws, there are yet many areas, social relations in the USSR where clear laws are absent or laws have to be updated. What has to be done? Let's listen to an authority on this point, the chairman of the Soviet Public Commission on Human Rights and Humanitarian Cooperation, Fedor Burlatskiy:

[Burlatskiy recording in Russian heard in background] Dr Burlatskiy is speaking about the whole system of laws that have to be enacted. One of these is about the freedom of conscience. The current law on this matter was passed nearly 60 years ago. It did not stimulate the development of religious (?cults). Another law has to be passed based on international legal standards, including the final act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. I find it essential, adds Dr Burlatskiy, that articles in the penal code have to be repealed, articles under which so-called dissidents were condemned.

And for the (?course) we need badly a law on openness. Glasnost is now the standard of our life, though not a legal standard. A law must be made for openness and (?pluralism), permanent features of our society. Finally, a law must be drafted about informal organizations and associations of citizens. There are already 30,000 such associations in the USSR, but so far there are no clearcut rules for their creation and on their rights. I hope, concluded Dr Burlatskiy, that these and other laws will be passed in the USSR this year and next to ensure actual rights of citizens.

Envoy to Austria Comments on Soviet Democracy

AU1306170588 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 11-12 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] Vienna—Even though the future in the Soviet Union will start with the party conference on 28 June, stimulating consumption by means of restructuring the economy is a priority issue, but one is still too much bogged down by today's problems. This was the conclusion drawn from a press conference by USSR Ambassador Gennadiy Shikin in Vienna on Friday [10 June]. The diplomat repeatedly stressed the look toward the future, but then dealt with specific questions of the present.

In an analysis of the Theses for the party conference, for instance, Shikin enumerated the planned reforms: new definition of the role of the CPSU; separation of the functions of party, parliaments (Soviets), and executive branch; democratization of the party itself. Despite full freedom of opinion, Lenin's principle that CPSU members have to strictly adhere to decisions made by the party remains valid. Any form of criticism is permitted, even collective criticism; but "we reject factions." (Asked how these two statements are compatible, Shikin drew up a comparison with the OEVP.)

And what if the government were to contradict a party decision? Then "both parties" would have to look for acceptable solutions. According to Shikin "this is not a very probable hypothesis; let us stick to the present."

The ambassador dealt in particular detail with the criticism of past foreign policy formulated in Thesis Number 10 for the party conference. There will be no consequences for any officials, for instance for long-standing foreign minister and current head of state Gromyko, because this is self-criticism of the party, which always decides collectively, Shikin noted. And: "Looking toward the future is more important than looking back to the past." Using the same sentence, Shikin answered a question about a reevaluation of the East Bloc invasion of the CSSR in 1968.

Reinterpretation of Democratic Centralism Urged

PM0906121788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jun 88 Second Edition p 2

[Letter from Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Professor K. Lyubutin under the general heading "Discussing the CPSU Central Committee Theses": "Exchanging Opinions"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee Theses are literally suffused with humanity—from the assessment of the development of the economy to the concept of the state of the whole people accepting the rule of law. This is particularly gratifying because our society has also been affected by a dearth of humanity and by social alienation.

I don't think anyone would reject the claim that not only socialism's aims and values, but the means of achieving them and human worth are by no means matters of indifference to us.

Yes, we need a permanently operating mechanism for exchanging opinions. The Theses do not call into question the established one-party system, but some people have a different view on this score. Countering it with a viewpoint based on Lenin's teaching is above all one of the paramount tasks of social science.

There is a another important aspect. While condemning factionalism, Vladimir Ilich Lenin was resolutely opposed to persecution of party comrades for having different views on particular issues. Let us not adopt an extreme stance and become arbitrarily subjectivist and dictatorial. But what does "dissidence" mean in the party sphere? How are the CPSU Statutes supposed to ensure a constructive dialogue between party members? These are questions that demand an answer. The Theses point out that it is necessary to fully resurrect the Leninist concept of the principle of democratic centralism, whereby freedom of debate at the stage of discussion of the next tasks and concerted action following the adoption of a decision by the majority must be ensured. But I believe it is not just a matter of resurrecting the aforementioned principle. It must be reinterpreted and intensified. In fact, the basic tenets of party building were formulated in the prerevolutionary period, when the party was operating as an illegal organization, forced to adhere to the toughest demands of discipline and operating producedures.

Another question. The Theses state that a great deal of work has to be done to improve and codify Soviet legislation. In my opinion, the review process should also take in party documents, decisions of congresses and plenums, and resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee. It is necessary to clear the ground here as well and give a principled assessment of a number of documents of the cult and stagnation times which even established a theoretical periodization of the history of the CPSU and of the country, a periodization that proved to be clearly unfounded. But, according to the principle of democratic centralism, every Communist is still supposed to treat these documents with proper respect. And this, you will agree, is hindering development and the establishment of new thinking.

In short, the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the upcoming party conference are rich in theory and are orientated in practical terms toward restructuring. They provide food for thought and for debate, without which, in fact, there can be no search for the truth and no movement forward.

Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Professor K. Lyubutin, Urals University, Sverdlovsk.

Uzbek Official on Overcoming Stagnation

PM1006095088 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Jun 88 p 10

[Article by Rasul Gulamov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Uzbek Republican Council of War and Labor Veterans, under the rubric "Toward the 19th All-Union Party Conference": "The Main Guarantee. How To Overcome the Stagnation Mechanism: The Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Chairman's View"]

[Text] I was a delegate to the 20th CPSU Congress and heard Khrushchev's report, which for the first time began to reveal the terrible truth about the personality cult. At the time, it was Stalin's personality cult. I remember how our Uzbek delegation was inspired by new ideas. It seemed at that time that we had put an end forever to the repulsive distortion of the Leninist essence of socialism. But a few years passed, and we witnessed the formation of new cults: Khrushchev at the center, and Rashidov in Uzbekistan.

Many of us tried to fight against the emerging manifestations of Stalinism, but the well oiled machine for sifting out obstinate people was still working too well. Too many party, soviet, and law enforcement organs were built on blind execution of the "top man's" will and regarded any doubts about his being right as "undermining the foundations."

During Rashidov's time in office there were several changes of second and sector Central Committee secretaries and chairmen of the republican Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers, and only Rashidov himself never left his post for nearly one-fourth of a century, until his death. For those who managed to please "the man himself," they were years of rapidly growing rich, and only the people's prosperity was at a standstill.

But then Rashidov was no more, only "Rashidovism" continued to flourish in our republic, despite enormous efforts by central organs to eradicate this phenomenon. How did it happen? In order to prevent the exposure of shameful crimes in which they were involved, people from Rashidov's immediate entourage, under the leadership of former Second Secretary Osetrov, who was subsequently arrested, shared out among themselves the posts in the leading echelon, and for several years continued to resist with all their might measures to impose order in the republic, and later to oppose restructuring. Many of their cases are now under investigation.

What was the reason for the continuing stagnation in our republic even after the April plenum? I am convinced it was due to the lack of democratic principles in the life of the party organization. It is no accident that it was only on the insistence and under the leadership of the CPSU Central Committee that major crimes were uncovered in the republic's economic, party, and law enforcement apparatus. It also became clear that there was no hurry to take party proceedings against former leaders who had been relieved of high office on the CPSU Central Committee's initiative for abuses; they were allowed to remain party members and transferred to other posts, and they enjoyed every benefit and privilege until the day of their arrest. Nor was there any party investigation of their crimes.

Half a century's experience as a Communist has strengthened my certainty: People who showed a lack of principle, servility, and unscrupulousness in the years of stagnation cannot rectify the grave situation that arose. They see restructuring as just another change of leadership which they must fit in with, so as later to "adapt" it to their own ends.

Restructuring is not feasible without the radical democratization of intraparty life. I believe it is necessary to carry out the certification of every Communist and determine by secret ballot whether he is worthy of that title. I think direct elections by secret ballot of raykom, gorkom, and obkom first secretaries will enable us to appoint to these posts truly authoritative, talented, and enterprising workers. As for limits on the term of service in an elected post, I am convinced that "Rashidovism" could not have happened if Rashidov himself had known that after one or two terms he would have to give the people an account of his work, with no opportunity to use his power to cover up his mistakes and crimes.

The guarantees of democracy are the elected nature of the leadership, a limited term of work in leadership posts, and accountability to the people. Uzbekistan, like everywhere else, has sufficient highly qualified Communists with a clear conscience who are capable of doing the people the greatest possible good today. So there is no need to fear that in conditions of true party democracy we will find ourselves without "tried and tested cadres."

Tenure Limit Should Count Party, Soviet Work

PM0706091588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jun 88 First Edition p 2

[Letter from Captain P. Glazkov under the general heading: "From the Current Mailbag"]

[Text] I believe that limiting tenure of state and party elective posts is by no means a guarantee against violations of Leninist principles of the cadre policy. For even during the period of stagnation itself there was "renewal" of leaders whereby "requisite" workers spent decades switching from party post to soviet post and vice versa, remaining "at the helm" in one way or another. This was (and still is) a guarantee of something different—the guarantee of a quiet life for people once ranked among the so-called nomenklatura.

It seems that the relevant clauses of the Theses should be amalgamated: The total tenure in party and state posts must be limited to two 5-year terms.

Second. I am in favor of genuine competitiveness, broad discussion of candidacies, and secret ballots when forming elective party organs: from primary organization to union republic Communist Party Central Committees and the CPSU Central Committee. I believe that this mechanism must also be employed when electing the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

CPSU Role in Society Needs Legal Defining

PM0706135188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 May 88 Second Edition p 3

[Article by Doctor of Philological Sciences Professor V. Gorokhov in a feature headed "Discussing the CPSU Central Committee Theses" and under the rubric "Party Democracy": "To Avoid Mistakes"]

[Text] Moscow—Among the multitude of problems currently being discussed by Communists and nonparty people the problem of improving the CPSU's activity occupies a special place. We learned long ago that the state of affairs in the party has a decisive effect on the life of society. Therefore, intraparty questions are of universal interest and concern and affect everyone.

The most worrying element in the history of society and the party is the possibility of mistakes being repeated. The I.V. Stalin cult of personality, N.S. Khrushchev's willful actions, and L.I. Brezhnev's infantile "stagnation" policy have a common feature: These political phenomena arose as a result of the absence of a real mechanism ensuring monitoring of the leaders' actions by the masses (I will note in parentheses that the cult of personality mentality is exceptionally tenacious and is a distinctive factor in our current debate: Just as under Stalin, all the successes were notched up to the "leader," and then all the errors were subsequently put down to figures who had quit the political arena).

To avoid such errors it is necessary not only to deepen intraparty democracy as much as possible. This is correctly stated in the CPSU Central Committee Theses. It is equally important, I believe, to put the party itself in a position which, on the one hand, would undoubtedly guarantee its leading role in society and, on the other hand, give working people the actual right, protected by the law, to make exacting demands on the party. In other words, it is a matter of the party's constitutional status in our society.

There is still much to think about and decide here. The USSR Constitution says that the CPSU is the nucleus of the political system. This formula is metaphorical, it is appropriate in poetry or in the language of journalism. But metaphors are out of place in juridical documents. What does "nucleus" mean? Would it not be better to precisely define the rights and duties of party organizations in the system of relations between the party and other political institutions?

There is a clear desire now to delimit the functions of party and soviet bodies. One readily assumes that as the radical economic reform deepens and public life is further democratized, the actual political situation in the country will change, as will the nature of the party's relations with soviet, economic, and public organizations. A thorough prognosis is now essential. And if, at the party conference, it is going to be difficult to envisage all the details, then the concept, the methodological principles of the party's collaboration with socialist society's other political institutions in restructuring conditions have to be elaborated now. In my view, this concept is essentially based on the democratic interdependence of the rights and duties of party organizations at all levels, starting with primary organizations and ending with the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. It is a "double" democratic check of party committees' activity—intraparty monitoring (of which much has already been said in PRAVDA articles) and democratic monitoring of party work by the whole people.

Party committees must bear full—intraparty and "foreign policy"—responsibility for the consequences of any decisions they make. One can and must rely on self-monitoring and on self-assessments and one must assume that the party committee's collective leading body is capable of accurately and comprehensively analyzing the positive and negative aspects of its work. But one must not fondly hope that the self-assessments are certain to be balanced. Past experience shows that a misconceived "honor of the regiment" and, sometimes, considerations that have no bearing on the matter, can distort the position of the elective party body and present a false picture of its activity.

I believe the CPSU Statutes and the USSR Constitution have to be "coupled" together and, maybe, a Law on the Party will have to be adopted enshrining the CPSU's leading role in state life and recording fully and exhaustively the rights and duties of party organizations. The following example will explain my idea. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary has supreme executive power in the USSR. He represents not only the the party, but the state as a whole and makes decisions at top level both on domestic and international matters. In my view, this position should be recorded in the USSR Constitution.

Editor Pledges To Defend Komsomol at Conference

PM0706115588 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Jun 88 p 1

[Article by KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA chief editor Gennadiy Seleznev under the general heading "Your Position? We Continue the Discussion on the CPSU Central Committee Theses for the 19th All-Union Party Conference. Delegates' Questionnaire: 1. What Will You Be Defending at the Conference? 2. What Will You Be Decisively Opposing? 3. What Do You Personally Want To Propose?"]

[Text] 1. The Komsomol. Yes, yes, the Komsomol as the only mass sociopolitical organization of young people in our country which aids and is a reserve of the CPSU.

The Komsomol took heart when the 27th CPSU Congress gave it back the status of a sociopolitical organization. But the Central Committee Theses for the 19th All-Union Party Conference mention the role of our union in a package with other public organizations and foundations. Why? Name just one party in the world which does not have its own reserve youth organization which enables it to replenish its own ranks with young people who have the same views. I think you would not be able to name one.

Now, in the period of revolutionary transformations, the Komsomol should be given more independence and even power. Young people are ready to work very hard, take responsibility for serious state work, and get the masses to gravitate toward them. I do not know the names of ispolkom chairmen, plant directors, leaders of scientific research institutes, or VUZ deans who are Komsomol members. You think they are not up to it? You are wrong. The Komsomol has been kept in short pants for too long, protected from bruises and bumps. Now it is paying for this, but it is also being cleansed of formalism, conformism, bureaucracy and is beginning to breathe freely.

2. I am against the viewpoint that exists in the public consciousness that specific problems do not exist among young people. Stagnation made young people the most unfairly treated section of society. But it is precisely they who will have to accomplish restructuring.

3. The conference must establish this fact and issue instructions for elaborating a multipurpose social and state "Youth" program.

Results of Public Poll on Restructuring

LD0806134988 Moscow TASS in English 1324 GMT 8 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 8 TASS—The increased activity and initiative of the shopfloor and their grown interest in the affairs of their factories are among the principal results of the perestroyka effort for economic and social change in this country, according to Soviet pollsters.

Reporting on the findings of sociological monitoring over Soviet people's attitude to perestroyka over the past year, they said that more than 60 percent of the respondents believe that their colleagues' responsibility for the job in hand has increased over the past 12 months, while less than a third take the opposite view.

Characteristically, most of those polled are convinced that the objectives of the perestroyka drive are feasible, with only 12 percent being doubtful about that. Over 80 percent are positive that perestroyka is a policy the nation cannot do without.

The monitoring has been done by researchers from the Soviet Academy of Sciences' Institute of Sociological Studies.

According to its director Vilen Ivanov, the monitoring is based on representative sample polls covering major industrial, transportation and building organizations in different parts of the country.

A continuous study of the opinions of a definite group of people makes it possible to identify changes in the public mentality that are characteristic of the whole country.

The pollsters questioned some 11,000 people in each of the years 1987 and 1988.

Poll Shows Satisfaction With Democratization

LD0906145088 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 9 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 9 TASS—Most Soviet people are satisfied with the way a policy of democratization and glasnost is pursued. This conclusion has been drawn by sociologists of the Academy of Social Sciences under the CPSU Central Committee who polled 4,000 people in all the economic and geographic regions of the country ahead of the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference.

Sixty seven per cent of the polled answered in the affirmative when asked if the democratization process is going on as it should. It is noteworthy that most of the polled are optimistic about prospects of the democratization of Soviet society. Only 11.8 per cent of them believe that nothing has changed.

Seventy two per cent of the polled formulated in writing their ideas of the essence of socialist democracy and gave priority to the freedom of speech and criticism, real participation of everyone in the management of the affairs of their labour collective and the whole of society, the expansion of glasnost in the work of sterring bodies, the election of senior executives on all the levels and the observance of the principle of social justice.

Seventy eight per cent of working people believe that large-scale democratization in the party and society will bring perceptible advantages. Only 2.8 per cent of the polled said that this course leads nowhere. Those people do not belong to any special category. They can be found in all the social, class, professional and democraphic groups.

Supreme Court Annuls Kamenev, Zinoryev Sentences

LD1306141688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] A plenum of the USSR Supreme Court has today annulled the sentences in the cases of Zinovyev, Kamenev, Pyatakov, and Radek and their comrades who were condemned in 1936 and 1937.

After the death of Lenin, it was considered that they were against the general line, deviated from Leninism, and slid toward Trotskiyism. Of course for a long time no one has believed that they were terrorists and the killers of Kirov, but there were still doubts as to whether they were honest revolutionaries and not enemies of the party and state. Now there is no more room for such doubts.

Victims of Stalin Remembered in Riga

LD1406084588 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Riga, 14 Jun (TASS)—There were massive processions and flowers were laid in memory of the victims of Stalin's repression at the Freedom Memorial in Communards Park and at the Bratskoye Cemetary in the Latvian capital. The mass deportation of people of different nationalities from this Baltic republic is being officially marked here for the first time in 47 years.

"We decided to give the republic's citizens the opportunity to honor the memory of those who were victims of the arbitrariness of Stalin's personality cult," Alfred Rubiks, Riga Gorispolkom chairman, told a TASS correspondent. He said that in Riga and in other towns in the republic, there are many people who were subjected to severe trials in 1941 and again in 1949. More than 31,000 people ended up far beyond the bounds of their home region. There were innocent sufferers along with those who served a just punishment for political diversion, conniving with the fascists, banditry, and espionage.

"We are providing the opportunity for these people and their relatives, friends, and loved ones to hold a meeting on the square in one of the most beautiful central parks of the city," A. Rubiks continued. He noted that the open discussion of the problems of society is a noteworthy feature of life in Latvia today. A special republican government commission is at work considering petitions from people who were illegally expelled from Latvia in 1941 and 1949. Dates have been allocated for remembering the victims of repressions. The republic's government has approved an initiative from young people for the building in Riga of a memorial to those who suffered during the years of Stalin's personality cult, said the mayor of Riga.

Siberian Town Plans Memorial to Stalin Victims

PM0106112988 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 May 88 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report under the rubric "In Eternal Memory": "To Those Who Perished Innocently"]

[Text] The first financial contributions have been paid into the fund to immortalize the memory of the innocent victims of the repressions of the thirties, forties, and fifties which has been opened at the transactions administration of the Chita Zhilsotsbank [Housing and Social Bank]. For the money collected, it is planned to construct a memorial in the oblast center to the victims of slander and tyranny who remained loyal to the cause of the party and the ideals of socialism.

This idea arose at the end of last year, V. Kurochkin, chairman of the organizational committee, relates. Our committee comprises both veterans and young people—people of various ages and professions. Their main task is the collection of material about people who were unlawfully subjected to repressions during the time of the Stalin personality cult.

At the moment "Chitagrazhdanproyekt" Institute specialists are in the process of drawing up conditions for a competition for the best designed memorial. It is planned to sum up the results of this competition early next year and, if the fund resources permit, begin the construction of the memorial in the same year. Naturally, the inhabitants of all the RSFSR's krays and oblasts and other union republics are free to participate in this undertaking.

Our address is 672050, Chita-50, Zhilsotsbank Transactions Administration, Account No. 7000624.

It is also planned to make the competition for the best designed memorial unionwide. We will be sincerely grateful to all who give us their support.

Group Seeks To Commemorate Stalin Victims

LD0406020488 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 3 Jun 88

[Text] Among the 30,000 public organizations in the USSR the work done by the initiative group calling itself Memorial is finding special interest among Soviet people.

Formed on public donations last August, the group promotes the idea of setting a memorial to honor the victims of Stalin's repressions in the 1930s and '40s. The sponsors of the group were 18 Muscovites of a wide range bracket and of various occupations. They are collecting signatures under an appeal to the USSR Supreme Soviet—our legislature—for it to pass a decision on such a memorial. (Yuriy Somadorov), a coleader of the group:

[Begin (Somadorov) recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] At first we collected signatures among friends, but later many of us circulated the appeal at their places of work, and then we began collecting signatures in theaters and other public places. We now have more than 15,000 signatures. The Moscow appeal has found support in other Soviet cities. For example in the Siberian city of Chita the local youth newspaper KOMSOMOLETS ZABAYKALYA is a sponsor of th eappeal to set up the memorial.

However, the idea is opposed by some people. In the Urals city of Sverdlovsk a copy of the appeal up for signing at a big science center was torn up by the manamagement. And yet a majority of people support the idea of building the memorial. As the Moscow group believes, the memorial would signify that restructuring in the Soviet Union has become an irreversible process, that our society condemns for good the repressive methods of running the country in the past. [end recording]

The memorial group has declared it will wind up its work as soon as the USSR Supreme Soviet adopts the appeal.

Khrushchev Son-in-Law Recalls Past

PM0706084788 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 20, 15 May 88 p 13

[Excerpt from Khrushchev's son-in-law Aleksey Adzhubey's forthcoming memoirs: "Remembering Khrushchev and His Time"—first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Aleksey Adzhubey, a journalist who married Nikita Khrushchev's daughter Rada, has now written a book about the years when his father-in-law was general secretary. Adzhubey's inside view of events which shaped the nation's destiny—due to appear in the June and July issues of "ZNAMYA"—also benefits from his broad-based perspective then as editor-in-chief of "IZVESTIYA". Today Adzhubey is on the editorial board of "SOVIET UNION" magazine. The following is an excerpt from his forthcoming memoirs:

My friends and acquaintances, especially biologists (my wife and two of my sons are biologists) often ask me how Nikita Sergeyevich could have trusted Lysenko and his charlatanry. Why was he so adamant about rejecting genetics?

Igor Vasilyevich Kurchatov, the great Soviet physicist, once paid Khrushchev a visit at his dacha. They sat together on an out-of-the-way bench, as they often did, and talked for an hour or more. Then Kurchatov left—he seemed offended. Nikita Sergeyevich also looked glum. He was irritated and needed to let off steam. "The Beard (his nickname for Kurchatov) is poking his nose into other people's affairs," he said. "He's a physicist and he came to intercede for geneticists. Genetics is pure devilry. We need corn, and they cultivate some obscure fruit flies."

There was so much conviction and irritated self-confidence in his words that Sergey, Khrushchev's son, couldn't bear it. He began arguing with his father. Rada supported her brother and even said to her father: "You'll be ashamed of yourself one day."

This opposition, dissent and audacity infuriated Khrushchev. It's not worth repeating the painful exchange that followed. We left for Moscow depressed.

One Sunday, a few weeks later, an excursion to Lysenko's experimental farm was organized for the members of the Presidium of the Central Committee. Jounralists were also invited. The "great agronomist" did not conceal his joy. He showed his guests the perfect fields with their neat rows of various crops. He pulled up huge mangel-wurzel roots. Then he showed the visitors around the cattle yards where beautiful cows nuzzled their pockets. Nobody asked how much this model farm cost.

Following the excursion, Khrushchev invited everybody to dinner at his place. Lysenko did a lot of boasting. He also complained that he couldn't show what he was really worth because of intrigues against him. He said there were Morganists and Weismannists everywhere. Khrushchev didn't pay much attention to Lysenko's scientific harangue. His interest was agronomy and what seemed to him the practical benefits each peasant could draw from Lysenko's recommendations.

Why was Khrushchev, a prudent and experienced politician, so reluctant to delve into genetics?

Khrushchev couldn't wait. Fruit flies and other abstruse subjects only diverted energy, he thought, from pratical tasks like increasing grain production. The country needed more bread right away. Impatience often makes one hope for a miracle.

In 1962, meat and dairy prices went up. IZVESTIYA quoted wholesale and retail prices and pointed out the gap between them, the implication being that wholesale purchase prices ought to be raised to make cattle breeding profitable. That measure seemed expedient, but meat production grew very slowly and in some cases even dropped. The slogan, "Catch up with and overtake America" in meat production, was never mentioned—even in anecdotes.

In 1963, grain production became erratic. At IZVESTIYA we got many letters about bread shortages. I rang up Pavel Satyukov, editor-in-chief of PRAVDA, and we decided to send excerpts from some of these letters to the Central Committee. Subsequent events were quite dramatic. Khrushchev considered (sensibly, perhaps) temporarily rationing bread to stop people from feeding it to their cattle. But considerations of prestige prevailed. They decided to buy grain abroad. Russia turned from a grain-exporting country into a grain-importing one. People quickly got over the shock. "Theoretical" justifications for grain imports began appearing. By the 1970s, grain imports were nothing unusual: They had increased several times over, while many regions in the Soviet Union had been pronounced "risky farming zones."

In those last years at the top, Nikita Sergeyevich travelled a lot around the country. Editors of national newspapers generally accompanied Khrushchev on those trips to cover the conferences with local authorities. In Novosibirsk, Alma-Ata, Tbilisi, Voronezh...Khrushchev appealed, reasoned, criticized. The thousands of people listening to him seemed fired up by his energy. But increasingly Khrushchev heard about something else: about the red-tape, the strong-arming by local bosses, the interference with collective and state farms, the disregard for working people's material incentives. The ghost of the surplus-appropriation system was haunting the fields. The administrators, accustomed for decades to ordering and commanding, found their new job titles easy to adjust to. Promises were the only commodity in good supply. Khrushchev believed and didn't believe them.

We journalists witnessed Khrushchev's outburst in Voronezh.

En route to Voronezh, Khrushchev's train made one last stop 100 km shy of the city. PRAVDA's local correspondent joined the Moscow journalists in the press car. It was early morning. We were standing at the windows staring at the vast fields under a light snow. Somebody noticed strange waves spreading across the fields with monotonous regularity. The local correspondent explained: The farmers hadn't managed to harvest the corn crop in time. Now, in anticipation of Khrushchev's arrival, tractors were dragging rails over the crop, to crush the stalks and corn-bobs and "camoflage" them.

We debated whether to tell Khrushchev. Finally, we decided to tell him.

We weren't present when the local bosses explained their "rail" technique for harvesting corn to Khrushchev. Apparently, they were neither disconcerted nor short of excuses. At a conference later that day, Khrushchev related this incident to hundreds of agricultural workers. A tense hush fell over the auditorium. Khrushchev was speaking not from the rostrum, but from the stage without a microphone. He didn't strain his voice, but every word was perfectly clear. Turning slowly around to face the presidium, his voice was strangely indifferent: "It might seem like I'm trying to set you at odds with all these people here." He embraced the audience in a sweeping gesture. "But that isn't true. I just want to remind you there was a time when the regional party committee was headed by Comrade Vareykis...."

What did he mean? Vareykis' fearlessness at the 17th CPSU Congress or his tragic fate?

Many years have passed since Khrushchev's retirement, since his death. But certain journalists and writers still attribute agricultural failings to the forcible production of corn. Our fields have long been cleared of this capricious crop. Farms that opted to raise corn for animal fodder had to do so secretly so as not to be accused of being Khrushchev apologists.

Why do the best of our intentions, such as corn crops or large cattle-breeding farms and industrialized orchards often prove foolish and ruinous?

Director on Lithuanian History 'Blank Spaces'

LD1006150088 Moscow TASS in English 0411 GMT 10 Jun 88

[Text] Vilnius June 10—ELTA correspondent Zigmas Aleksandravicius writes:

A meeting like the one held in the Lithuanian capital late in May would have been unthinkable several years ago. Now, in conditions of glasnost and perestroyka, it is assessed as a logical striving of society to rid itself of negative encrustations of the past. Thousands of people of Vilnius gathered at the monument to Zigmas Alexa-Angaretis, a victim of Stalinist arbitrariness, one of the founders and leaders of the Communist Party of Lithuania. The meeting was held on the 48th anniversary of his death.

There are heated debates in the Soviet press, also in the Lithuanian press, about "blank spaces" in history. There are publications on this theme by doctor of history, Professor Vanda Kasauskene, director of the institute of the history of the party at the Central Committee of the Communist party of Lithuania.

"Violations of legality in Lithuania took place in special conditions", she declared. "The struggle of the Lithuanian people for the restoration of Soviet power that was waged for two decades was crowned with victory in 1940. Lithuania's voluntary entry into the USSR opened favourable prospects for socialist construction. But social and economic transformations were made in conditions of deformation of socialism in the USSR. Socialisation of the means of production was ordered and was implemented in a rash manner and at an unjustifiably high pace. Contrary to economic and political expedience, small enterprises of artisans were nationalized. These circumstances, just as rigid centralization of the national economy, led to the disruption of steadiness in the supply of foodstuffs and consumer goods. The situation was constantly worsening. By that time reprisals started. People were deported to remote areas of the country".

In Lithuania, a young socialist republic, bordering on the Hitlerite Reich, there were forces hostile to Soviet power, the fifth column: former high officials, functionaries of the eliminated pro-fascist organisations, former policemen. A clandestine anti-Soviet organisation "Lithuanian activists' front" was formed. It operated in contact with the German reconnaissance and planned to stage a mutiny in the event of war, even before the arrival of the Hitlerites. Naturally, a fierce struggle against the fifth column was conducted in the republic. But the deporations of families of so-called "politically unreliable elements" were unjustified. Peasants, teachers, physicians, workers in the arts were among the deported.

Deportations without trial and investigation were made in violation of socialist legality, contrary to the provisions of the constitutions of the USSR and of the lithuanian soviet Socialist Republic.

Before Soviet power was restored in Lithuania, the Communist Party of Lithuania sustained considerable losses. Many Lithuanian communists staying in the USSR were executed as a result of the reprisals. Prominent Soviet party, state, and military leaders who came from Lithuania, perished: Varejkis, Putna, Uborevic, Smuskevic, and others.

Monuments to Angaretis, to Putna, to former commander of the USSR Air Force, twice Hero of the Soviet Union Jakov Smuskevic, were erected in Soviet Lithuania. A film about Varejkis was made.

Facts of illegal deportation, of the violation of socialist legality committed in Lithuania before the Second World War and in the post-war years are studied and analyzed. The information obtained will soon be published. "This is a duty of historians to the people, and we shall do this duty", said the director of the Lithuanian institute of the history of the party.

Briefs

Satellite Relay Station

An Ekran satellite relay station has been put into service in Osh Oblast, Kirgizia. Inhabitants of mountainous Ala-Bukinskiy Rayon are now able to watch central television's first channel. [Summary] *[LD0506043088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0200 GMT 3 Jun 88]*

Armenian Church-State Relations

The government of Soviet Armenia has decided to give the Armenian Apostolic Church two unique ancient monasteries: Tathev, built in the 9th century, and (Makaravunk) built between the 11th and 13th centuries. The Church has also received three cathedrals of great historic and architectural value. The Supreme Patriarch Vazgen I, Catholicos of all Armenians, told journalists that meant that relations between the Church and the state are based on mutual trust and understanding. [Text] *[LD3105011388 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 May 88]*

Ryzhkov Report Published

The report by Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, on the role of cooperatives in developing the country's economy and the draft Law on Cooperatives in the USSR has been published as a separate brochure. The report was delivered at the joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the 9th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th Convocation. The brochure was published by the Politichskaya Literatura publishing house. *[LD3105011088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 May 88]*

Economic

Conference on Chemical Industry Reported

PM1306093188 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 May 88 p 3

[TASS report: "Conference at CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A conference was held at the CPSU Central Committee 21 May to examine progress in fulfilling the comprehensive program for the chemicalization of the country's national economy and the party and government resolutions on developing the chemical complex and the tasks of party committees, ministries, departments, enterprises and organizations in implementing the outlined decisions. Taking part in its work were leaders of associations, enterprises, and organizations of the chemical industry; machine building, and the construction complex; and also permanent organs of the USSR Council of Ministers, Gosplan, Gossnab, ministries, and departments; secretaries of union republic Communist Party Central Committees, party kraykoms, and obkoms; and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, and the USSR People's Control Committee.

N.N. Slyunkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, opened the conference.

V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, reported on progress in implementing the comprehensive program for the chemicalization of the national economy and fulfilling the tasks for this year and the entire 5-year plan.

Reports were also delivered by Yu.P. Batalin and I.S. Silayev, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Addressing the conference, O.D. Baklanov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed that the Central Committee and the Central Committee Politburo attach great significance to the dynamic development of the chemical industry and to the fuller satisfaction of the national economy's growing demands for its output.

It is difficult to hope for the dynamic development of technical progress in most sectors and of the country's productive forces as a whole without extensively utilizing the most modern chemical materials and products. The shortage of them is a noticeable hindrance and primarily affects the development of key areas in the economy—the agrarian sector, machine building, electronics, consumer goods production, and others.

Taking into account the role of the chemical industry in society's economic development, measures have been determined to increase its production and scientific potential. But this vitally important program is still being carried out only slowly and not on the scale that was envisaged. The proportion of chemical output in the total volume of gross national product is not increasing, and the shortage of it is having a negative impact on the chemicalization of the country's national economy. A serious lag has emerged in fulfilling plans to create capacities in the current 5-year plan.

Leaders of union and republican ministries and departments, enterprises and organizations, and local party committees are not paying proper attention to developing the chemical complex. A principled assessment is frequently not made of instances of failure to meet targets.

This is why the plans for commissioning extremely important production units are not being fulfilled and construction times are 50-100 percent higher than the normative. A number of projects using complete sets of imported equipment are over schedule. According to information from the USSR Industrial Construction Bank, one in two such construction projects is completed 1-3 years behind schedule.

Work by construction ministries to construct chemical industry facilities has deteriorated in the past few years. The USSR Ministry of Construction in the Southern Regions of the USSR, the USSR Ministry of Construction in the Urals and West Siberia Regions of the USSR, the USSR Ministry of Construction in the Northern and Western Regions of the USSR, the Ukrainian Ministry of Construction, and the Kazakhstan Ministry of Construction construct chemical production units which are unsatisfactory in terms of speed and quality. The government directive on utilizing construction trusts set up to specialize in constructing only chemical production units is not being fulfilled and they continue to be diverted to other work. There has been a serious slackening of attention paid to developing the chemical industry in Kuybyshev, Perm, and Tula Oblasts, Maritime Kray, the Ukraine, Turkmenia, and Uzbekistan, beginning with contracts and ending with the supply of manpower and material resources to construction projects.

This situation can no longer be tolerated. The USSR Gosstroy, the construction ministries, and local organs must take measures as quickly as possible to eliminate the lag allowed to occur in constructing capacities.

A particularly large amount of work remains to be done in constructing major complexes for producing plastics and chemical fibers in Bashkir ASSR, Stavropol Kray, and Gorkiy, Irkutsk, and Mogilev Oblasts. Increasing tasks to construct facilities for thorough petroleum refining, microbiological protein, chemical plant protection agents, feed preservatives, medicines, and other chemicalization agents remain to be resolved in almost all republics, krays, and oblasts.

Along with a sharp increase in the pace of construction, a significant improvement is required in the supply of equipment to newly constructed and reconstructed production units. Today the development of the chemical industry is being seriously hindered by chemical machine building. The machine building complex constantly fails to satisfy chemical sectors' growing requirements for progressive equipment. Because of serious failures by machine builders in fulfilling contractual obligations last year, the timetable for commissioning a number of projects was postponed to 1988. Targets were not met for deliveries of polymer equipment, pumps and compressors, large-scale equipment for construction projects for thorough petroleum refining, and other goods.

The shortage and poor quality of equipment is having a negative impact on the retooling of enterprises and creation of new technological processes. As a result fixed capital is being renewed only slowly, and many outdated production units are in operation.

Machine builders must speedily implement specific measures for completely equipping the most important facilities in the chemical industry. The manufacture of progressive, new-generation technology, machines, and equipment should be particularly increased. It is intolerable that problems of developing the chemical complex and expanding the base of chemical machine building are not being resolved comprehensively and are being left for the long term. Unless cardinal measures are taken, the shortage of equipment in the 13th 5-Year Plan will double. Ministries in the chemical complex should pay more attention to increasing the capacities of their own machine building, including via the involvement of foreign firms.

The attention of departments and ministries is drawn to the need to improve the mechanism for managing the investment cycle, from project to new production units' attainment of design indicators. It should unite on a mutually advantageous economic basis all the participants in the process, including local soviets, and should be implemented as a single, continuous cycle.

Today the Central Committee, government, and broad public are focusing their attention on ecological questions. A deeply thought out approach to resolving all questions connected with siting and developing the chemical industry is required of the USSR Gosplan and ministries. Fundamentally new waste-free technologies and high standards in both the production and the utilization of chemical products are needed. Constant and extensive explanatory work on the significance of chemistry in the national economy is essential.

No ministry or department must remain on the sidelines in implementing the tasks for the accelerated development of the chemical complex. But the role of party organs is particularly important. They are called upon to organize the fulfillment of party and government resolutions, to ensure the implementation of the plans for the commissioning of capacities and environmental facilities, and to mobilize labor collectives for this. A passive stance must not be taken, citing allegedly insuperable obstacles when siting new production units, nor must a parochial policy be conducted to the detriment of state interests.

We all—workers, ministries, scientists, and, of course, party workers—the speaker said, need to learn to live and act in conditions of democracy and glasnost. And this means skillfully, intelligently, objectively, and honestly explaining to people the true state of affairs. All kinds of rumors and conjectures regarding the harmful effects of chemistry and consequent unnecessary emotions are emerging because of lack of information and often distortions of reality. We must act in a calm and considered way.

Economic, party, and soviet organs should do everything to prevent any failure to meet plans to increase production of chemical output and to construct and commission new facilities.

In order to radically improve the state of affairs in the chemical complex, we should all act vigorously, aggressively, in the spirit of restructuring and in the spirit of the demands of the Central Committee April plenum and the 27th party conference, the CPSU Central Committee secretary concluded.

The following spoke at the conference: USSR Ministers Yu.A. Bespalov, N.M. Olshanskiy, A.N. Shchepetilnikov, and B.V. Bakin; Obkom First Secretaries B.V. Konoplev and G.I. Usmanov; V.Z. Borisovskiy, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers; Yu.A. Buslayev, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Physical Chemistry; Yu.A. Meshcheryakov, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee; A.M. Chernetskiy, general director of the "Uralkhimmash" Association; N.F. Khripunov, general director of the "Minudobreniya" Association;

V.I. Nikolaychik, general director of the "Plastik" Association; V.G. Starkov, secretary of the "Novomoskovskbytkhim" Production Association party committee, and others.

N.N. Slyunkov delivered the closing speech.

He stressed the particular priority significance of the chemical complex in forming a progressive national economic structure. The comprehensive program for the chemicalization of the national economy adopted in 1985 by the Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers was aimed particularly at this. But there is a great delay in its fulfillment.

The sector is a "bottleneck" in the national economy, and the pace of its development is lagging behind the constantly growing demands of the country. The needs of agriculture, industry, and construction for many forms of output are still not being fully met. In general, the situation in the chemical complex should be assessed as critical. Continuation of the negative tendencies may threaten the 5-year plan. We cannot permit such a turn of events, we do not have the right.

It is essential to do what has not been done as quickly as possible, focus attention on the main directions, determine the main links in the sector's complex structure, and plan progress in the production of the output which will be most effective in bringing about acceleration throughout the national economy.

Cardinal measures must be taken primarily in improving the state of affairs in polymer chemistry. Our industry still tends to use metal as the main structural material. Metal production continues to grow, yet the shortage persists. Meanwhile, the proportion of nonmetallic structural materials is increasing only slowly. Although it is well known that replacing metal by polymers is economically justified and effective. This shows that our pace in many of the most important areas in the production of chemical output should be clarified.

In particular, attention should be focused on the construction of major complexes to produce polymers and chemical fibers in a number of regions of the RSFSR and Belorussia.

A most important task is to more than double capacities for the production of microbiological feed protein by creating new enterprises in Orenburg, Pavlodar, and Saratov Oblasts, the Komi ASSR, and other regions of the country.

The expansion of the utilization of intensive technologies in agriculture is being hindered by the lack systemic chemical plant protection agents.

Union and republic construction ministries in conjunction with chemical ministries must carry out a timely investigation of every construction project and outline measures to improve construction progress.

Efforts should be concentrated on constructing priority projects through the redistribution of material and labor resources and technology, and all the existing local reserves and opportunities should be vigorously utilized.

Chemical ministries and enterprise leaders must more widely develop collaboration with machine builders and contract organizations in resolving tasks connected with retooling and reconstruction. The own-resources method must also be used for these purposes.

Economic levers and incentives for cooperatives and lease contracts should be more skillfully utilized. There are such examples in the ministries. Initiative should be vigorously supported and disseminated in every possible way.

Machine building has to resolve serious tasks. No radical breakthrough or major technological advance in the chemical sectors can be achieved without highly productive equipment. This primarily concerns polymer and film equipment, modular devices for small quantities of materials, and process automation systems. The USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building and the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building must rectify the situation in the production of chemical equipment as soon as possible.

The efforts of scientific and construction organizations must be channeled into developing complete technological lines and units equipped with microprocessor technology and raising their quality and reliability. Exhaustive measures must be taken to create specialized sectors and production facilities for the manufacture of high-precision assemblies, machines, and units and to strengthen the chemical machine building base. The times urgently require a switch to service maintenance of large-capacity units.

The USSR Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers draft resolution for developing the chemical industry in the 13th 5-year plan and for the long term is now being prepared. In the coming 2 years we should scale such heights in order to really achieve a significant advance in the pace of the development of the chemical complex in the next 5-year plan.

The USSR Council of Ministers Bureaus for the Chemical and Timber Complex and for the Machine Building Complex and ministry leaders bear full responsibility for the timely fulfillment of decisions on developing the chemical industry.

The role of party organizations, union republic Communist Party Central Committees, party kraykoms and obkoms, and construction project and enterprise party committees in this work to accelerate progress in the chemical industry is important. Purposeful practical work to develop the chemical complex, site new production units, and retool existing plants depends largely on their organizational work and on the vigor and the specific nature of their actions.

Grassroots party organizations should be much more vigorously mobilized, more time should be devoted to real work in labor collectives, a critical attitude toward everything which hinders restructuring must be intensified, everything progressive must be noticed and encouraged, and innovators' experience must be disseminated. This is the main concern now.

Central Committee departments must step up their monitoring of fulfillment of targets to develop the complex, pay more attention to primary party organizations, and assist them in their work. Exactingness toward Communist leaders should be increased, and those who tend to replace work with assurances and promises should be resolutely dismissed.

Now the party and the entire people are approaching the 19th all-union party conference, and the country has reached a decisive stage in restructuring. The mood for work which now determines our society's life, the mood to decisively accelerate economic development should be utilized to maximum effect.

I think that our meeting will make it possible to activate work in the center and locally and remedy the state of affairs in the chemical industry. The proposals and remarks expressed will be summed up. The USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for the Chemical and Timber Complex, central departments, and other organs have been instructed to take measures as quickly as possible to implement them.

The following took part in the conference work: L.A. Voronin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.G. Afonin and A.I. Volskiy, chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; S.I. Manyakin, chairman of the USSR People's Control Committee; G.I. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and G.F. Sukhoruchenkova, secretary of the AUCCTU.

Scientific

'Cosmos-1953' Research Satellite Launched 14 Jun

LD1406102488 Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 14 TASS—The Soviet Union launched the Cosmos-1953 artificial earth's satellite today from the Tsiklon rocket carrier. The scientific equipment on the satellite's board is meant for continuing space research.

The satellite was put into orbit with the following parameters:

The initial period of revolution—97.8 minutes.
The maximum distance from the earth's surface—680 kilometres.
The minimum distance from the earth's surface—647 kilometres.
The orbit's inclination—82.5 degrees.

The satellite is also equipped with systems for carrying out accurate measurement of the orbit's elements and transmitting the data about the work of the instruments and scientific equipment to earth.

The satellite's equipment is functioning normally.

Activities of 'Mir' Cosmonauts Reported

LD1306120788 Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 13 Jun 88

[Text] Moscow June 13 TASS—By a TASS correspondent reporting from Mission Control Centre:

The Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov, Anatoliy Solovev, Viktor Savinykh and Aleksandur Aleksandrov are continuing their joint mission on board the orbital space station Mir (Peace).

The visiting crew carried out a great deal of medical studies. One of the goals was to determine correlation between the ability to work and sound sleep and rest.

Aleksandrov conducted an experiment in which the quality of sleep was determined using electrophysiological indicators and replies to a questionnaire.

A batch of interferon produced using methods of genetic engineering underwent electrophoretic purification on the installation Ruchei (Brook).

In keeping with the programme for the study of the earth's natural resources and the environment, the cosmonauts will carry out several series of photography and spectrometry sessions today.

Experiments have been planned to measure the background of the fluorescence of the night sky and appraise the polarization of the irradiation of astrophysical objects.

An experiment has been started to study the development of higher plants in zero-gravity under the influence of the heterogeneous artificial magnetic field.

On the programme is a news conference to be beamed from space for Soviet and foreign journalists covering the mission.

The flight of the research complex Mir is proceeding normally. The cosmonauts are feeling fine.

Costs, Benefits of Space Program Discussed

PM1006110888 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jun 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Special correspondent B. Konovalov report: "Space and Money"]

[Text] Baykonur Space Center—The changes taking place in the country are felt increasingly at the space center. This time, the bringing out of the rocket was unusual. While it was traveling from the installation and testing block to the launch complex, for the first time we could see the advertising for Bulgarian and Soviet organizations on the rocket train. "Farmakhim," "Balkankar," "Radiotekhnika," "Glavkosmos," "Aviaeksport SSSR"—the names of these and other firms traveled with the rocket to the launch pad, reminding the whole world of their existence.

Of course, the design could have been better, and the advertising for the "Traktoreksport" firm did not "dock" very well with the rocket train, but all these things can be put right. The most striking aspect of this phenomenon is the concern for commerce on the part of the creators of space technology.

"We are still a long way from self-financing," Kerim Aliyevich Kerimov, chairman of the [unspecified] State Commission, told Soviet and Bulgarian journalists, "but we intend to switch to economic accountability relations."

The journalists immediately inquired what the placing of one "Soyuz" spaceship in orbit costs the state.

"The rocket is series-produced," K.A. Kerimov said, "and so it is relatively inexpensive—approximately R2-3 million. The ships are made in small series, and they are substantially more costly: R7-8 million."

"And what does it cost to carry out a flight?"

"It is relatively costly. After all, in the course of preparation for a manned flight, as a rule two ships are prepared, and 'Progress' craft are launched to back up work in orbit. In addition, it is not only the space center that takes part here. Many other departments and organizations are involved. There is substantial expenditure on preparing the scientific program. Incidentally, in the joint flight, Bulgaria takes on only that expenditure, all the rest is covered by the Soviet Union."

...Let us add to this that the training of the cosmonauts and the work of the Flight Control Center and the ground-based network of tracking stations are costly. And naturally, the question arises: Is the expenditure justified?

"We are not satisfied with the existing state of affairs," the State Commission chairman replies. "If we were to stop the transmission of space data to science and the national economy now, there would be a tremendous fuss, because they need them, many departments receive real benefit from it. But they do not share things with us, there are no economic accountability relations as yet. Economics should influence our work and the activity of all the scientific and production organizations utilizing space data."

"Kerim Aliyevich, if you compare one-shot space rocket systems and reusable ones, which is economically better?"

"The Americans have now come to the conclusion that they had not thought everything out correctly as regards reusable ships," he stated. "A cost comparison of expenditure per launch of reusable systems and one-shot systems comes out in favor of comparatively cheap series-produced rockets and ships."

...The launch pad from which the second Bulgarian cosmonaut will take off for the skies is a historic one—Gagarin's. From here the first artificial earth satellite was also launched. Our country is rightly proud of that. The launch of the "Soyuz TM-5" ship, scheduled for 7 June, will be the 290th. That is just from this one launch pad at the Baykonur Space Center. It is a large number. It is time to start counting not only the launches, but also the practical results. That is the imperative of the times.

Especially since the social needs of the capital of the Baykonur Space Center—the city of Leninsk—are poorly satisfied. In the years of stagnation, when we were particularly fond of talking about our space achievements, the city soviet in this city of 60,000 people had only R20,000 for sociocultural facilities.

"The situation is now gradually changing," Viktor Andreyevich Ugryumov, chairman of the gorispolkom, said at a meeting with Soviet and Bulgarian journalists. "In 1986 only 9 sociocultural projects were commissioned, but last year the figure was 47. However, there are still very many unresolved problems, and given the city's departmental dependence, they are hard to resolve. Recently, for instance, we received the joyful news that seven barrels have been dispatched to us for the sale of kvass to the population, which is a substantial addition to the nine we already have. But we had to obtain them through the Council of Ministers."

...Let us observe that this is in a city located in semidesert, where in the summer temperatures of 30-40 degrees are normal.

Thus today Baykonur is concerned with epoch-making space matters and with purely earthly, seemingly trivial matters. But they are inseparably linked, and unless the "trivial" tasks are tackled, it will inevitably affect our impressive plans too. This must be spoken of frankly on the eve of the 19th party conference. That is why IZVESTIYA is beginning its reports on the joint Soviet-Bulgarian space flight with an untraditional item.

Baklanov Visits Kurchatov Nuclear Institute

LD1006143988 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Jun 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] At a branch of the Kurchatov Atomic Power Institute today, Comrade Baklanov [secretary of the CPSU Central Committee] acquainted himself with progress in the field of controlled thermonuclear fusion, the results achieved in creating magnetohydrodynamic generators and their application in mineral prospecting, and the capabilities of technological lasers and pulse plasma technology. He inspected the institute's test rig and laboratory base, its experimental installations, including the Tokomak complex, and its computer center. There was a discussion with the institute's management, the party committee, leading scientists and industrial specialists of practical issues on intensifying work in the most important areas of basic and applied research, and of improving their efficiency and performance for the national economy.

Further Reportage on Academy Resignations

PM1306135988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jun 88 Morning Edition p 2

[A. Gayazov report: "Academicians Tender Resignations"]

[Text] It has been learned that a group of outstanding Soviet scientists, including academician secretaries of departments and members of the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium, have asked to be released from their duties without waiting for the expiration of their terms of office (due in 1990).

It is unprecedented in the history of the USSR Academy of Sciences for such a large number of academicians, 16 to be precise, working as science organizers, to resign simultaneously. Is this the result of some special circumstances? The editorial office asked L. Semenov, chief of the USSR Academy of Sciences Cadre Department, to comment.

A rejuvenation of cadres is under way in the Academy, Lev Konstantinovich said. The process of the replacement of older generations by younger generations is normal and natural. However, this case is nonetheless special. Our academicians of the first magnitude are setting an enormously important example. Their move is dictated by a desire to involve young and talented science organizers more actively in restructuring.

[Gayazov] Does this mean that the academicians are giving up active scientific work?

[Semenov] No. They are vacating leading administrative posts. Academy Department Secretaries Academicians N. Bogolyubov, M. Markov, V. Kirillin, A. Fokin, N. Zhavoronkov, and A. Bayev have asked to be transferred, for reasons of age, to become advisers to the Academy presidium. General meetings to elect academician secretaries to fill the vacant posts will take place in the relevant departments before 20 June. The first such meeting has already been held at the General and Technical Chemistry Department. Academician Fokin's post, for instance, has been filled by O. Nefedov, who was born in 1931. The elections are democratic; not one, but several candidates are being put forward, and all candidacies are being thoroughly discussed.

[Gayazov] Which presidium members have tendered their resignations?

[Semenov] Academician A. Aleksandrov, the former president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Academicians V. Ambartsumyan, S. Vonsovskiy, A. Trofimuk, G. Svishchev, B. Piotrovskiy, M. Styrikovich, V. Tuchkevich, N. Fedorenko, and N. Shilo. They, too, have been appointed advisers to the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium. Gratitude has been expressed to them for their services to science and their active work in the organization of science.

[Gayazov] Will the renewal of cadres at the Academy continue?

[Semenov] Yes. At the moment 20 academic institute directors and 3 deputy directors and 160 subdivision chiefs who are of advanced years still occupy their posts.

Military

Party Officials at Central Asian Military Meeting

PM1306121388 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jun 88 First Edition p 1

[Correspondent Lieutenant Colonel A. Ladin report: "Tasks in Need of Resolution"]

[Text] Yesterday an extramural session of the Central Asian Military District Military Council was held in Dushanbe, in the Tajik SSR Council of Ministers Hall of Sessions.

The report delivered by Colonel General A. Kovtunov, commander of the Central Asian Military District, devoted attention to the further improvement of material support for the training process in the district's units and subunits and to the resolution of the tasks of sociocultural development and examined the course of the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution aimed at further improving the preparation of young people for military service.

The Military Council drew the attention of commanders and political organs to the need to improve ideological education work with personnel and reinforce friendship and comradeliness in military collectives and also demanded that in the future a resolute struggle be waged to eradicate nonregulation relations and boost the responsibility of commanders, political workers, and all Communists for the state of military discipline.

The Military Council session examined measures to improve work linked with assisting military-patriotic associations and reserve soldiers' clubs helping prepare young people for military service.

The following took part in the work of the district Military Council: G. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee; K. Makhkamov, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee; N. Nazarbayev, chairman of the Kazakh Council of Ministers; I. Khayeyev, chairman of the Tajik Council of Ministers; A. Dzhumagulov, chairman of the Kirghiz Council of Ministers; P. Luchinskiy, second secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee; and G. Kiselev, second secretary of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee.

Admiral Interviewed on Kola Defense System

LD1306165288 Moscow International Service in Finnish 1530 GMT 12 Jun 88

[Excerpt] [First announcer] The Soviet defense system in the Kola Peninsula and the Northern Fleet which is located there form part of the Soviet strategic nuclear forces, while the Soviet Northern Fleet is a counterbalance to the United States' nuclear missile-armed fleet. In my opinion, the agreement to be signed between the Soviet Union and the United States to reduce strategic attack weapons by half could also pay attention to a lowering of the strategic balance in this part, stated Admiral Konstantin Makarov, chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Navy and first deputy commander-in-chief of the Navy.

[Second announcer] For the next 8 minutes we will read you the admiral's answers to questions from an interview with our reporter Oleg Okulovskiy.

[First announcer] Western newspapers have often written that the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. missile agreement will threaten Western Europe from the sea. What is questioned are those Soviet submarines which previously patrolled near the United States' coast and which will be transferred to European waters. (?They could use as targets) places in Western Europe. What can Admiral Makarov say of such possibilities?

[Second announcer] In the admiral's view, only those who oppose the destruction of nuclear weapons claim that the missile agreement has increased the threat to Western Europe from the sea. I would think that under that shadow they are trying to defend the NATO leadership's cherished projects of replacing the Pershing II and cruise missiles, which are to be destroyed, with other kinds of nuclear and nonnuclear weapons systems. In concrete terms, it is intended that the tasks of land-based cruise missiles will be transferred to air and sea-based cruise missiles and F-111 bombers. They want to replace the Pershing-2 missiles, to be destroyed, by English Trident-2 submarine-based ballistic missiles. NATO is discussing other measures to complement the alliance's armaments by bringing new U.S. nuclear forces into Europe and adjacent sea areas. With these measures in fact, the other side is challenged to begin a new arms spiral at a regional level, Admiral Konstantin Makarov emphasizes. If the plans are realized, the force of the missile agreement will be considerably weakened. In other words, the first concrete step on the road to the complete destruction of nuclear weapons will be undermined. In this way the plans for replacement could in fact increase the threat to Europe.

As regards Soviet submarines in Nordic waters, they are part of the confrontation in strategic attack weapons between the Soviet Union and the United States. As I see it, there is today no other possibility than the reduction in weapons on land, in the air and sea and under the sea without the replacement of the weapons to be destroyed with other weapons, says the admiral.

[First announcer] Armaments (?produced on a production line) may not replace armaments in the air and sea, but, on the contrary, the disarmament that has begun must be commenced in the sea and air. How does the commander-in-chief view the present situation for the possibility of disarmament at sea?

[Second announcer] In Western capitals there has so far been no response to our proposals to take up for discussion the problems of the reduction and limiting of sea-based weapons, said Admiral Makarov. In terms of the preservation of peace, as in the prevention of war and confrontation, this problem is important. For years there have been negotiations on nearly all kinds of weapons. Discussions have been held at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, as well as that on Security and Disarmament in Europe. True, the United States and the other NATO countries are trying to bring out of the negotiations all those questions that relate to sea and air forces. Their point of departure seems to be that they are the most powerful factors in the armed forces, and have a decisive power in matters of military superiority.

The Warsaw Pact countries have appealed to all the states in NATO and the CSCE, urging them to begin negotiations for the participation of the bigger sea states—and particularly the states with nuclear weapons—in measures to limit and ban naval activity in areas in which agreement is reached on limiting naval armaments, and for the extension of confidence-building measures to seas and oceans, says Admiral Konstantin Makarov. The many Soviet initiatives are aimed at decreasing armaments in sea areas and apply to the situation in Asia and the Pacific region, the Indian

Ocean, the northern European waters, the Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf. On the one hand, this program is intended to reduce naval activity everywhere, and on the other hand to pay attention to the peculiarities of each area.

Moscow has suggested the convening of a special international conference on the problems of reducing naval activities, or in an extreme case, the convening of a UN Security Council session on this question. In our view, the special disarmament session of the UN General Assembly should pay attention to the issues of naval activity, just as it should be discussed at the second stage of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe. All the Soviet Union's proposals are valid. The matter is now up to the Western countries. We hope that our negoatiating partners understand at last that disarmament questions may not set aside naval ones.

[First announcer] And the last question for the chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Navy, Admiral Konstantin Makarov: As is known, the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the halving of strategic attack weapons is for the present a matter for the future, even though possibly the very near future. Western, and indeed Nordic, newspapers have stated in one way or another that such an agreement will certainly increase the strategic importance of the Kola Peninsula, as well as the Soviet naval bases situated there. What would admiral Makarov have to day by way of comment on these assumptions?

[Second announcer] The Soviet Union responded quite unequivocally to these fabrications in its unilateral measures in 1986 to reduce the arsenal of the Kola Peninsula. Nevertheless, NATO propaganda tries to mislead the Nordic countries into believing that the Soviet Union is increasing its armaments in the North or that it plans to, continues Admiral Makarov. In our own northwestern areas, including the Kola Peninsula, the defense measures to be taken by the Soviet Union have never been directed against any area, nor do they threaten, nor have they threatened, the security of the Nordic countries. To what are these measures due? Only to the fact that a suitable strategic balance with the United States and NATO has to be guaranteed everywhere. That is why the defense systems on the Kola Peninsula, and the Northern fleet based there, are a part of the Soviet strategic nuclear forces. [passaged omitted]